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Creator: Mary Jane Carlino

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHAPTER 1961 – 1975 VOL. 1

# San Francisco
# Bay Area Chapter
# News Clips

## 1961 – 1975 Vol. 1

**Creator: Mary Jane Carlino**

## Veteran News Vender

# Rites for Albert Anderson

Funeral services will be held in San Bruno today (Thursday) for Albert A. (Shorty) Anderson, longtime vendor of The Chronicle, who died Sunday at the age of 72.

A well-known San Francisco figure who sold papers at Grant avenue and Market street for 30 years, Mr. Anderson was honored by then-Mayor George Christopher in 1961, when he announced the time had come to retire.

Mr. Anderson, who stood just four-feet two-and-a-half inches tall, established his newsstand on February 6, 1930, after a successful circus career that included fire eating and working with lions.

Customers walked blocks out of their way to buy papers from him. "I talk nice to them," he said, explaining his popularity.

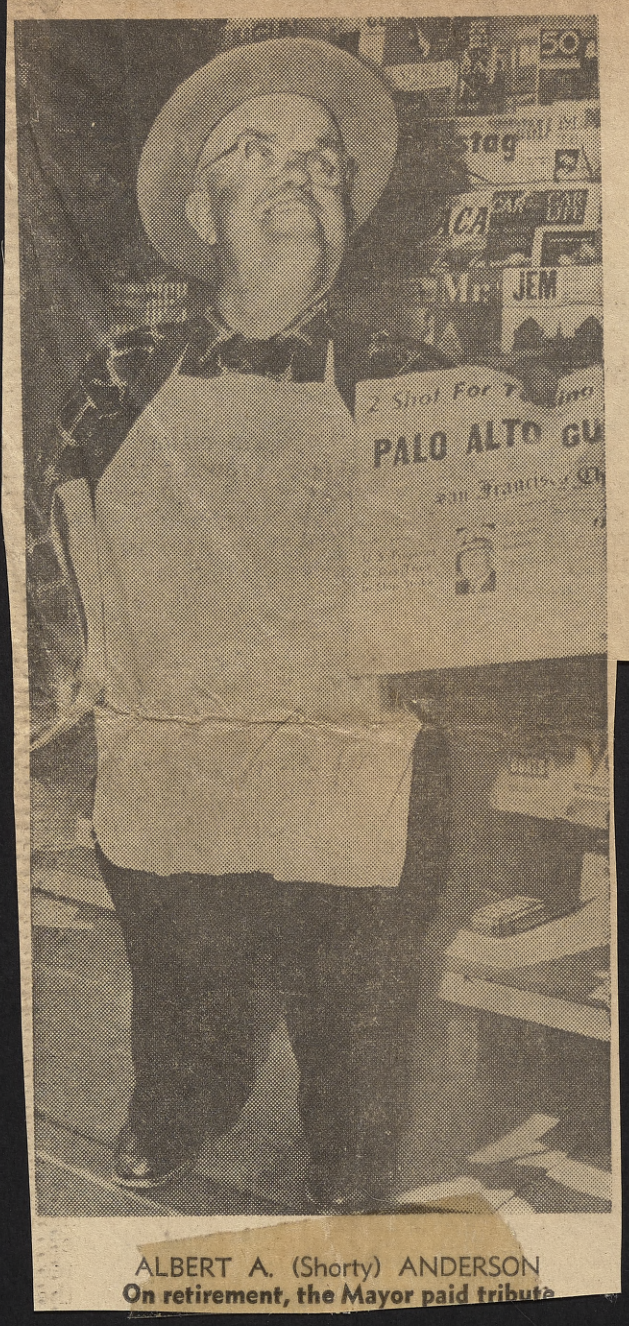
A bad leg and heart trouble forced his retirement, and as he closed up shop Mayor Christopher and a crowd of friends were on hand to wish him well and present him with an official proclamation marking that day as "Shorty Anderson Day."

In retirement he made his home with his wife, Mary Mannette, who stood several inches shorter than he, at 970 Green avenue in San Bruno.

Both were life-long members of Little People of America.

Mr. Anderson is survived by his wife.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. at the San Bruno Funeral Home at 200 West San Bruno avenue. Interment will be at Sunset Mausoleum in Berkeley.



ALBERT A. (Shorty) ANDERSON
**On retirement, the Mayor paid tribute**

Shown above are 39 of the 58 little people attending Dist. 12's convention April 18-20. Front row, 1. to r., Felix Silla, Alan Nichols, Stacie Nichols, Mary Jane Carlino, Jackie East, Alice Bourassa, Maurice Alden, Majorie Alden, Betty Stewart, Bob Shoemaker, Todd Shepard, Alice Miranda, Billy Barty, Bobby Owens, Ralph Petty, Myrtle Petty, Carolyn Strange, Deloris Vercellino, and Joe Vercellino. Second row, 1. to r., Sue Silla, Betty Nichols, Harriett Stickney, Neno Carlino, Bob East, and Shirley Leschander. Back row, 1. to r., Art Doty, Bob Burgan, Al Stickney, Tom Henderson, Mickey Rosenberg, Cathy Samson, Kenny Williams, Dorene Williams, Connie Cummings, Lillie Johnson, Shirley Berg, Shirley Barty, Raylene Johns, and Carol Belknap.

IN MEMORIAM

With heavy heart, we announce the passing of two LPA members and the father of another. District 12 extends its heartfelt sympathy to each of the families.

THOM HENDERSON passed away suddenly May 6, at the age of 24 years 3 months. While Thom had not been well for quite sometime, his sudden passing is a shock to his many friends in LPA. Despite his health, THOM put his whole enthusiasm in every LPA activity that he possibly could. He attended a number of National LPA conventions, including 1973 and was well known throughout LPA. He is survived by his parents, DOROTHY AND GENE HENDERSON, his sister, brother-in-law and niece, AILEEN, LEN, and HEATHER GARMAN. A memorial service was held May 11 at the Maria Regina Church in Torrance. Thom willed his body to medical science.

# BRUCE JOHNSON WINS FIRST GUILD AWARD

Bruce Johnson, a 28-year-old Oakland painter, has received the first $1,000 annual award presented by the Contemporary Art Committee of the Oakland Museum's Art Guild.

The grant, "to encourage young Northern California artists and to stimulate interest in contempary arts in California," was announced by committee chairman Mrs. Mel (Leta) Ramos, Oakland, and Oakland Museum Art Curator George Neubert.

Funds for the prize were generated by the Contemporary Art Committee's tour, "The Artist Collects;" held last April. Nearly 200 people signed up for the Sunday tour, which provided art aficionados an inside look into the homes of nationally-prominent local artists Bruce Beasley, Garry Bennett, Karl Kasten, Vince Perez, Raymond Saunders and Mel Ramos.

In selecting Johnson for the first award, the committee carefully screened the works of 15 young local artists. They visited studios and watched painting and sculpture in process. Their survey also included, perusal of color slides and photographs of the artist's works. An entire set of judging criteria was established for the selection process.

Johnson, who combines apartment and studio in Oakland's Claremont district, is a graduate of College of Arts and Crafts, and has a Master of Fine Arts degree in graphics. He is currently teaching art at Santa Rosa Junior College.

"It was my extensive training in graphics that first got me interested inn the painting process," Johnson said. "The relationships to lithography, with its color overlays, intrigued me and I saw painting as a more immediate vehicle for expression."

His subtly-toned acrylic paintings are on 22 x 30 inch paper, which is first folded into squares and rectangles.

The paint, which he mixes with a modeling paste, is applied with a brush. Johnson then lifts part of the first layer with cardboard. Successive surface applications are then sanded and finished with steel wool.

Each small square, then, reflects subtle variations in color and texture, often adding the illusive third dimension to what at first appears to be a flat, two-dimensional surface.

His future painting experiments might include the involvement of more color and a richer surface incident.

A showing of Johnson's paintings will open at the San Francisco Museum of Art March 27, with a concurrent exhibition of the Oakland Museum.

Among his major group exhibitions are last year's annual San Francisco Art Festival (where he won a purchase award) and the Oakland Museum's "Introductions show; "Grids," by the Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania; the James D. Phelan Awards Exhibition, California Palace of the Legion of Honor; and exhibitions in Hawaii, Oklahoma, Massachusetts, Washington, as well as CCAC student-faculty shows.

A long-time resident of Hawaii, he has attended and taught at the University of Hawaii.

Johnson has traveled extensively in Europe, Canada, the U.S. and Mexico, and in addition to his painting, enjoys surfing aand water sports.

He is represented by the Michael Walls Gallery in Los Angeles.

Members of the Contemporary Art Committee who selected Johnson for this initial award are Oakland's Cleveland Bellow, William Dutcher, Mrs. Ron Weiss and Mrs. Ramos; Piedmont's Peter Bowman; Berkeley's Mrs. William L. C. Wheaton; Orinda's Sara Grossman and Mrs. Robert Mitgang; Alameda's Mrs. George Ross; and Mill Valley's Phil Linhares.

**OAKLAND PAINTER BRUCE JOHNSON**
Winner of Contemporary Art Committee award

SINCE 1854

# The Daily Union Democrat

LEADING NEWSPAPER OF THE MOTHER LODE

121st Year, Number 181 | Sonora, California, Monday, March 24, 1975 | Single Copy, 10 Cents

## Helping Others Is High Point For Little Folks

Driving a car and shopping for new clothes are activities which most of us take for granted.

But for people under five feet tall, even those tasks are very difficult.

More than 60 members of Little People of America—most no taller than four feet—gathered for a weekend convention at the Sonora inn.

"Most of us came equipped with stools," said outgoing Little People district director Alfred Stickney of San Bruno.

Stickney said Little People of America formed primarily to provide an exchange of ideas and problems among people who are 4-foot-11 or shorter because of medical reasons.

"We try to reach as

Many of the women do their own tailoring and clothing is often a topic at Little People gatherings. Many custom orders are many parents and dwarfed children as possible," Stickney said. "We want them to know they can do almost anything for a living. We want to stimulate them to get an education."

Stickney, an aircraft planner for the San Francisco airport, outlined some of the major problems faced by Little People.

In order to drive they must install extensions on the brakes and gas pedals of their cars. Since most Little People sit tall (their reduced size is primarily in the lower body and legs)

they can adequately see to drive.

Clothing and shoes present a major problem. made through the mail to Hong Kong.

Remodeling a house is also difficult. Little People cannot make too many alterations in the kitchen for instance, because if they want to sell the home later a prospective purchaser will probably be taller.

This weekend's convention was for District 12, which includes California, Nevada and Hawaii. The group met at the inn on Saturday and Sunday with special events including a tour of Columbia State park and a Saturday evening banquet

**SPEAKER'S PLATFORM—A chair was needed Saturday night so Nerses Malkonion of Little People of America could reach the microphone for his talk to a convention gathering at the Sonora inn.**
**—Union Democrat photo**

### DISTRICT 12

In the West Coast area of the Nation, a wide variety of activities have occurred.

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter has scheduled a Christmas party and pot luck dinner for Saturday, Dec. 21. (Sorry folks, no time or location was given.)

Attorney and Mrs. Tom Welch, Oakland, California, hosted the Bay Area LPA Children's Christmas party Sunday, Dec. 15, sponsored by the Chapter and the Parent's Auxiliary. Ole Santa even put in a surprise appearance for the youngsters and distributed gifts. While they were enjoying their new toys, the Parents met briefly to discuss a tape recording by Dr. David Rimoin, from Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.

In order that Bay area members can make arrangements to attend the meetings, the assembly voted to hold their sessions the first Friday evening of every month at the American Savings and Loan Building, San Leandro, Calif.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Looking back a few weeks, special CONGRATULATIONS and BEST WISHES are in order for Mr. & Mrs. Carl McGregor (Miss Darlene Howsden), who were married Sept. 21 in Las Vegas, Nev.

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Williams (Miss Dorene Howsden) also receive the very best wishes of LPA. They were married Oct. 12 at the Mt. Eden Southern Baptist Church in Hayward, Calif.

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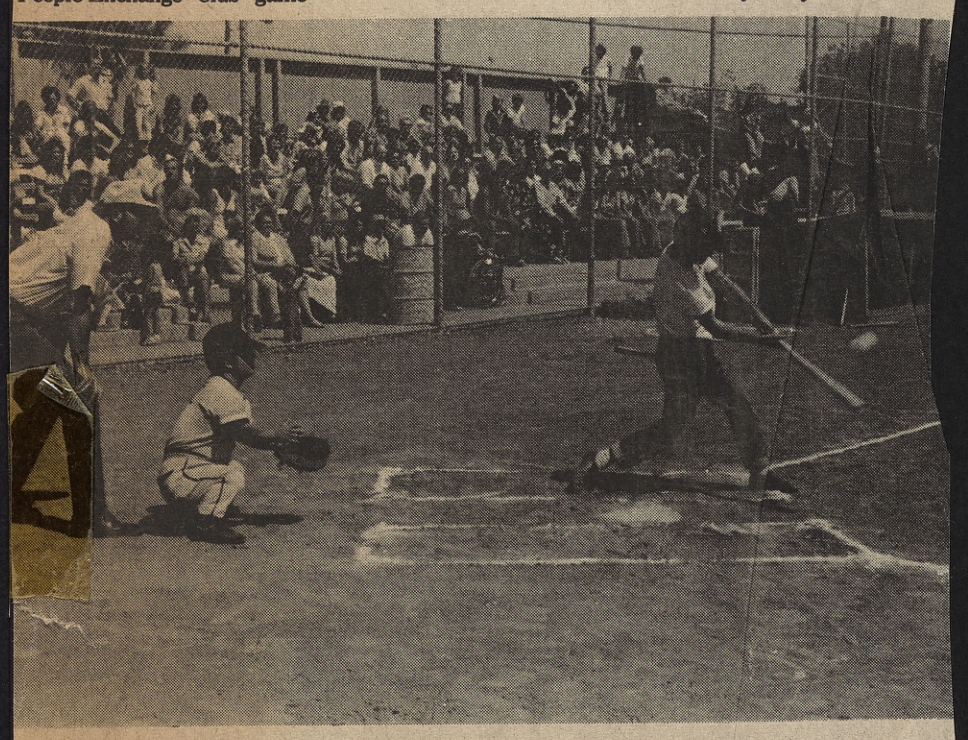
A blanket of sadness covered Dist. 12 recently when Miss Peggy Ann Stockton Sebastopol, Calif. died in an auto crash. She was 18 years old.

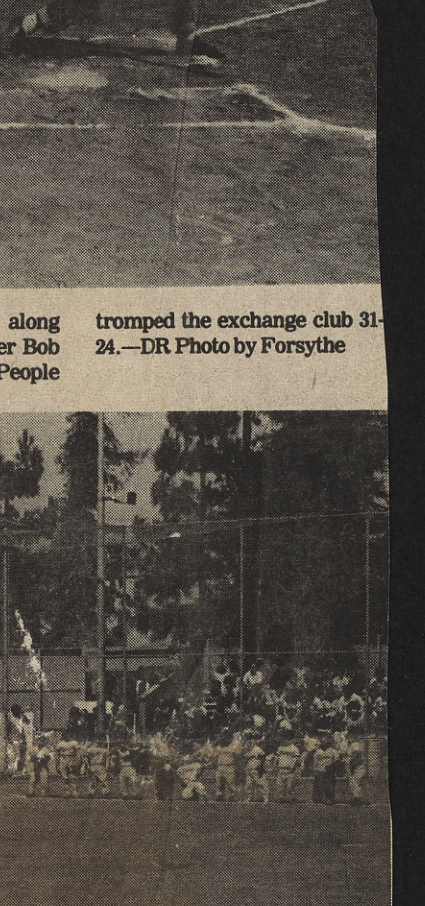
In the Los Angeles area, a special children's Christmas party was held Dec. 15.

FAIRFIELD CITY Councilman Gary Faliati throws in the first ball at the Little People-Exchange Club game Sunday at Lee Bell Park. Up at bat is Anthony Carlino of the Little People team as Exchange Club catcher Tom Weber stands ready. The game raised more that $700 for the Little People charity.—DR Photo by Forsythe



A HIGH FLY is hit by Bill Braker of the Fairfield Exchange Club team as umpire George Poppe watches along with Little People catcher Bob Burgan. The Little People tromped the exchange club 31-24.—DR Photo by Forsythe

PLAYERS from the exchange club team (left) and the Little People team are lined up for introduction at the Little People of America game Sunday at Lee Bell park in Fairf[illegible] The exchange club men played a tight game for the first seven innings with the Little People barely ahead 24-23. The women took over for the eighth and ninth innings and the Little People won 31-24. Irving Scible of Fairfield played on the Little People team.—DR Photo by Forsythe



Mrs. Harriet Stickney

AP PHOTO

## Tall and Short

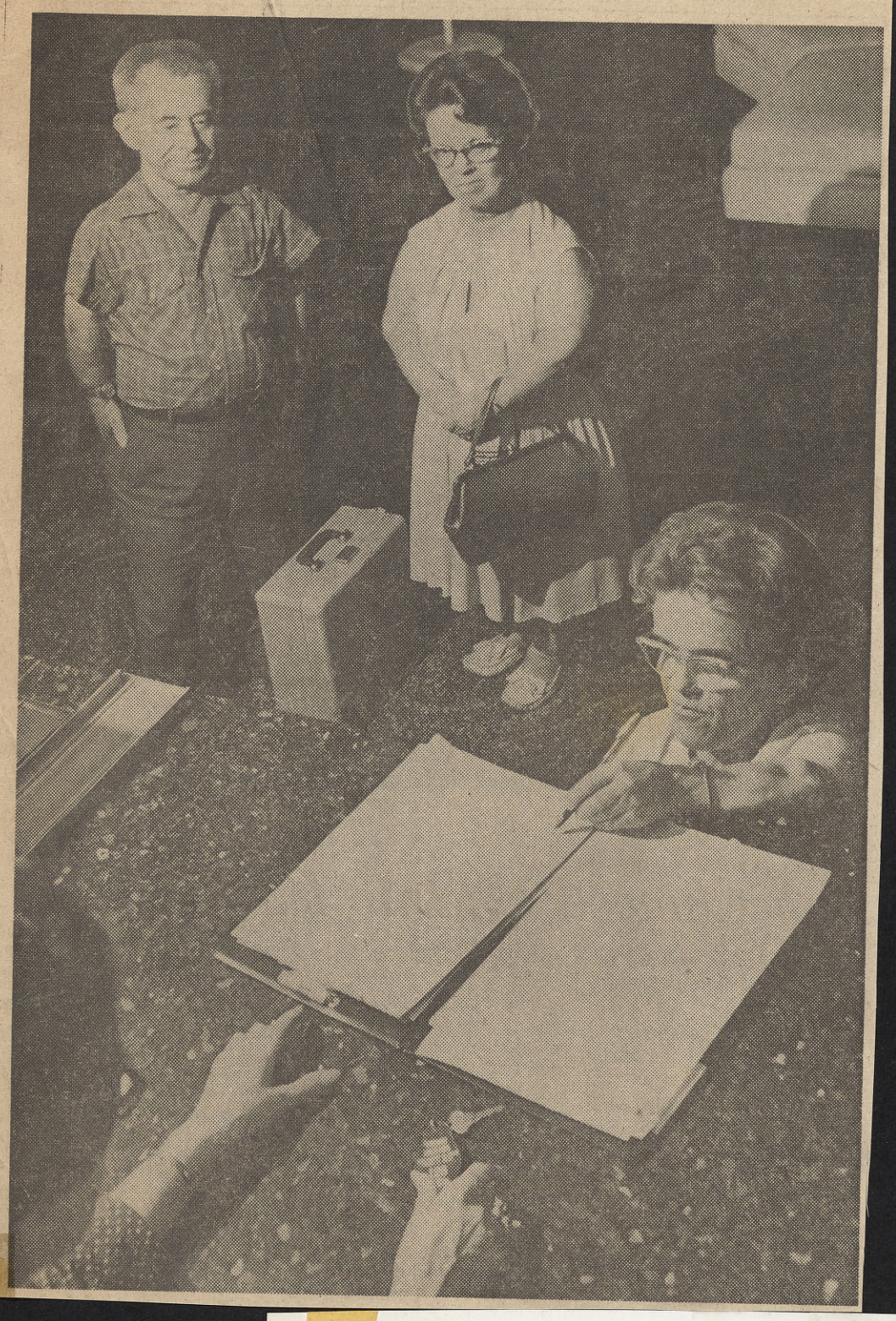
Man in the middle is television host David Frost, six feet tall. He is backstage at his TV program on the Guinness Book of World Records, which lists Don Koehler (left) as the world's tallest man at 8 feet 2. Michu (right), a Hungarian circus performer, is listed as the world's shortest man, 33 inches tall.

**JOHNNY**
**He had to ask his mother**

**Remember Johnny Roventini?** Johnny *who?* If you're over 30, you probably remember the 48-inch-tall, Brooklyn-born bellboy with the famous "Call for Phil-lip Mor-race" by his first name only. He's now in his 38th year of plying his unusual talent, mostly for special events. And he's got a lifetime contract. He really was "auditioned" by paging that familiar name in the lobby of the Hotel New Yorker for a dollar tip. He hesitated to leave the security of his $15 weekly salary, plus about $10 in tips, so he stalled the new job offer by saying, "I'll have to ask my mother." Johnny's call was a perfect B-flat. On the only night he ever missed a broadcast, he was snowbound on the Brooklyn Bridge. Over the car radio, he heard his announcer ask the audience to stand up and deliver the call themselves. "They were beautiful," Johnny remembers—"and right on key!"

Pictured above with the Azusa Pacific College Philosophy Department, our founder, Billy Barty, has been busy giving talks on behalf of LPA. Billy has addressed the Glenn City School District in Santa Paula, the Association for Physical Therapy in Southern California, and entertained at both the Childs Guidance Center and the Los Angeles Press Club Childrens Christmas Party.

THE FRESNO BEE
THE REPUBLICAN
Fresno, California, Sunday Morning, September 4, 1966 1-B



Bee Photos by Edward C. Nold

SIGNING UP—Measuring up to the physical obstacles in a world designed for conventional sized persons often is simply a matter of stretching her 4 feet for Bobbie Owen of Chowchilla, as in registering for the district convention of the Little People of America, Inc. Waiting their turn are Mr. and Mrs. Earl Warr of Goodyear, Ariz.

INSIDE STORY—Dorene, left, and Darlene Howsden, identical twins from Hayward, get in some light reading during a lull in convention activities.

In early October, the members of District 12 held their annual Fall District meeting in San Luis Obispo, California. Unfortunately a lack of space in the November issue made it impossible to print the above picture. More than 60 California LPA'ers attended the city's first District meeting. The group included:
(Left to right) – (ROW 1) Lori Barty, Matthew Roloff. (ROW 2) Mary Ann Schroeder, Lois Gerage, Barbara Davis, Billy Barty, Mrs. Shirley Barty, Mrs. Shirley Harper, Ellis Harper, George Moore, Mrs. Harriet Stickney. (ROW 3) Evan Artran, Marilyn Artran, Richard LaRussa, Joe Vercellino, Mrs. Dee Vercellino, Mrs. Georgia Guild, Robert Aries, Mrs. Novella Cockrell, Alice Miranda, Mrs. Darlene McGregor, Al Stickney. (ROW 4) Mrs. Dorothy Doty, Stan Buce, Art Doty, Mickey Rosenberg, Mrs. Shirley Rosenberg, Bob Burgan, Dana Guild, Jerry Cockrell, Darrell Dietrich, Carl McGregor. (ROW 5) Ed Holliday, Mrs. Raylene Holliday, Bobie Owen, Neno Carlino, Mrs. Mary Jane Carlino, Mrs. Jackie East, Joy Campbell, Bob East, Cathy Heaslett, Kathy McQuire, George Rossitto, Peter Norman, David Conley, Harriet Seevers.

# Little People Like To Think Big

By David Hale

Tammy Sue Kipp is a real heart breaker.

With her green eyes, lustrous red hair and outsize personality, she stands out in any crowd of her peers. She can do whatever any 6-year-old can do — except reach a door knob.

For Tammy is 2 feet 3 inches tall. She is a dwarf, one of the rarest kind —one in a million, says her mother, Mrs. Barbara Kipp, a statuesque 5-foot-2 blonde.

As a dwarf, Tammy automatically is a member of the nation's smallest minority group. There are an estimated 5,000 to 10,000 persons in the United States who meet the qualification by being 4 feet 10 inches or less in height. The national average is 5 feet 8.2 inches for men and 5 feet 3 inches for women.

Along with about 1,000 others Tammy is on the mailing list of one of the most exclusive clubs, Little People of America, Inc., the 12th District of which is currently holding a convention in the Fresno Hacienda Motel. Children with problems similar to Tammy's are, in fact, one of the major reasons for the group's organization in 1957.

As the littlest, Tammy is, not unexpectedly, the pet at the local gathering of about 100 Little People. More surprising, in a world in which "The Norm" is worshipped, she is also a big hit elsewhere, too. A few years ago — and in some circles today —she might have been hidden away.

"One of our biggest goals," says Billy Barty, 3-foot-9 television and night club personality and the acknowledged founder of the club, "is to educate other parents to be like Tammy's. They don't shelter her. They let her live — as much as she can — a normal life.

As founder of the organization, Barty automatically is a big man in Little People of America. He is also one of the brightest examples for little littles (children). Like many dwarfs, he was born to "regular size" parents. Perhaps "because nobody ever told me I couldn't," he was forward enough to fit into movies at 3, in vaudeville as a teenager. He likes to tell about lettering (at 80 pounds) in football at Los Angeles City College and in basketball at Los Angeles State College.

Today he is seen on national television both as comic and actor, but for two years his principal job has been as master of ceremonies in a Los Angeles children's TV show. The secret of his success? "I don't talk down to them."

Is there anything Barty cannot do?

"I guess I couldn't play on a professional basketball team," he laughs. "We tell our children the only space barrier we have to conquer is between our ears. We are at the point as an organization that we have educated ourselves; now we just have to convince the rest of the world."

Medical profession knows little about dwarfism, beyond classifying the varieties into three general types —pituitary, the cretin and achondroplastic. Pituitary dwarfs are perfectly proportioned but smaller people. The most common the achondroplastic — has normal size torso and head but short arms and legs. But if medicine has overlooked the little people, the public at large has for centuries (and still does, LPA officials say) regarded them as curiosities. And the objects of the curiosity are not afraid to talk about their adjustment difficulties.

"People stare and call you 'Shorty' or 'Kid'," says Bob East of Oakland, the district chairman. "They'll also say 'I hear the circus is in town. Are you with it?"

Little people have what one physician calls a "visibility" problem. Size automatically associates them with court jesters from medieval times, or carnival attractions today. Partly to avoid that image little people increasingly shun show business.

"Proving to people that we are capable is the big rub," says East. "What people don't know is that we

See Little People Page 4-B

BUILT-INS—Bob East, chairman of the California-Nevada-Hawaii District of Little People of America, Inc., shows off the special extensions he fashioned for the foot controls of his automobile.


LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA

VS.

FAIRFIELD–SUISUN EXCHANGE CLUB

in a Softball Game

Sunday, August 11, 1974 at 1:00 p.m.

LEE BELL PARK

ADULT DONATION

$1.00

THIS TICKET IS REDEEMABLE AT STRAW HAT PIZZA FOR $1.00 OFF THE PURCHASE PRICE OF ONE LARGE PIZZA.
OFFER EXPIRES AUGUST 31, 1974.

No. 0276

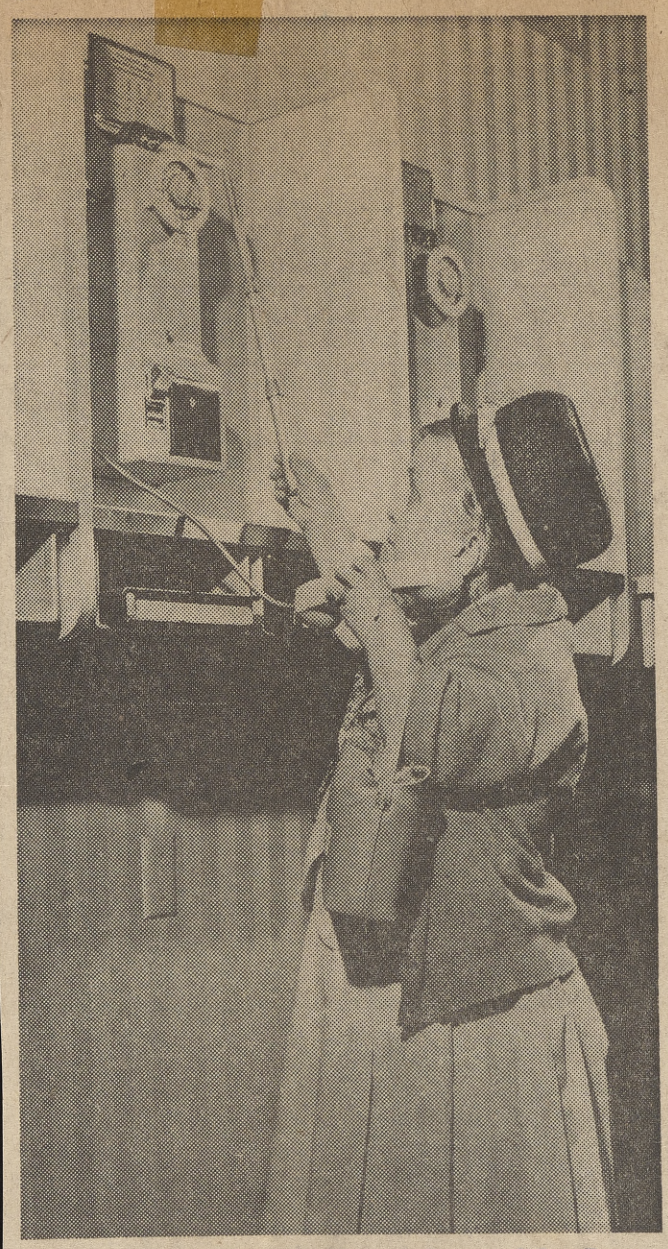
EXCHANGE CLUB SOFTBALL

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 1974

1:00 p.m. at Lee Bell Park

PROCEEDS TO HELP THE LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA AND LOCAL CHARITIES AND PROJECTS SPONSORED BY THE FAIRFIELD SUISUN EXCHANGE CLUB.

No. 0276

REACHING TALL—Mrs. Albert Anderson of San Bruno demonstrates a device for adjusting to one of life's biggest nuisances—untouchable slots, light switches or elevator buttons.

YOU AND WHO ELSE?—Facing up to a close shave at second are umpire Fuldio (Foo) Parenti of Mountain View and Felix Silla of North Hollywood. Teams will vie today for a trophy. Parenti is a watchmaker and jewelry setter. Silla is the bewhiskered Cousin Itt of TV's "The Addams Family."

## Little Folk Have Big Problems

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — Finding clothes and a job are the major nuisances, says 4-foot-1 Lee Kitchens, president of the Little People of America, Inc., holding its annual convention here.

Kitchens, from Richardson, Tex., said yesterday, "The trouble is too many little people aren't qualified for the work they want to do. This gives them an added handicap on top of their size."

But Kitchens has overcome any handicap, rising to manager of an engineering branch of Texas Instruments, Inc.

Entertainer Billy Barty, 3-foot-9½, added: "Preconceived notions on the part of big people hurt us. Too many have the wrong ideas about the abilities and intelligence of little people."

Jerry Marens, 4-foot-3, put it another way:

"We get paid according to our size."

# Sonora to Come Up Shor

By LENORE RUTHERFORD

The Little People of America are scheduled to start arriving at the Sonora inn tomorrow for a weekend convention.

The Little People is a national organization of people who are 4-foot-11 or shorter because of medical reasons. Delegates at the Sonora convention will be from throughout District 12—serving California, Nevada and Hawaii.

Little People has about 2,000 members nationwide. About 75 to 100 are expected to attend the convention here. Local people who feel they may qualify for membership are invited.

The convention will begin with a 6 p.m. reception Friday at the Sonora inn.

The only outside activity planned is a tour of Columbia on Saturday afternoon. Otherwise members will be kept busy at the inn with two board meetings, two general m
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and dance.

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## Little People Are Meeting In Hollywood

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Kitchens, from Richardson, Tex., said Monday, "The trouble is too many little people aren't qualified for the work they want to do. This gives them an added handicap on top of their size."

But Kitchens has overcome any handicap, rising to manager of an engineering branch of Texas Instruments, Inc.

District 12 members at their meeting in April in Fresno, California.

Mr. Rossi

*Specialist In Car Pedal Extensions*

12153 Bonwood Road
El Monte, California 91732
(213) 442-8198

Co–Chairman Billy Barty used a giant tee given him by Milton Blackstone, chairman of the Famous Comedians Golf Classic. Surrounding Mr. Blackstone are commentator Ben Hunter and city offici.l Mr. Greene.

Our Baby Boy's Name
is
Braden William

and he's the greatest!

He arrived July 24, 1970 2:12 p.m.

He weighed 7 lbs 11 oz

His parents Shirley & Billy Barty

IN MEMORIAM

With heavy heart, we announce the passing of two longtime, faithful LPA members. To each of those families plus to FRANK LAW and his family upon the death of FRANK'S grandfather, July 25, we extend our heart felt sympathy.

GENE HENDERSON, with a long history of heart complications, passed away, Monday, Aug. 5, exactly 12 weeks to the day after the passing of his son, THOM. GENE was 53 yrs. young. A memorial service was held Aug. 10 at the Maria Regina Church in Torrance. Known for his wonderful wit, kind and sympathetic nature, how we will miss GENE. He is survived by hia wife, DOROTHY, his daughter, her husband, and daughter, AILEEN, LEN and , HEATHER GARMAN. If you havaen't called or written, know they would appreciate hearing from you. Suffering the loss of both a beloved son and brother, husband and father in 12 short weeks is a severe blow of the worst type imaginable. NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL to let them know we're thinking of them...As did THOM, GENE also willed his body to medical science.

MARY SMITH, 79, Las Vegas, Nev. Those of us who were at the 1968 fall district meeting in Las Vegas will remember cheery Mary Smith. She helped in whatever way she could to get ready for that meeting. She was confined to a wheelchair, since early childhood. A native of New York City, Mary also lived in Florida, before moving to Las Vegas, where she lived for 21 years. She is survived by her sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Pardaffy, with whom she made her home, and a nephew, Edw. J. Paradaffy, of Torrance, Ca.

DISTRICT 12 MEETING, MARCH 12, 13, 14 - SACRAMENTO INN, SACRAMENTO, CA.

ROW 1: Tina Johnson, Marty Rogers, Mike Hart
ROW 2: Debbie Dixon, Stacie Nichols, Yolanda Mayes, Barbara Davis, Shirley Harper, Gloria Van Loo, Barbara Corbin, Kathy McQuire, Joan Cecil, Lillie Johnson, Kathy Heaslett.
ROW 3: Bob Burgan, David Norris, Martha Alexander, Harriet Seevers, Ellis Harper, Richard LaRussa, Peter Norman, Raylene Holliday, Ed Holliday, Alan Nichols, Bob East.
ROW 4: George Rossitto, Joe Alexander, Darrell Dietrich, Al Stickney, Harriet Stickney, Jackie East, Arthur Doty.

# Their Big-Little World

—Independent photo

MOWER NENO WITH THE EASTS, CENTER, AND MARY JANE.

By NORMAN COLBY
Independent Staff Writer

Richmond's Neno Carlino, 50 years old, four feet-three inches, 120 pounds, has to work harder than most people to hold his job, raise his famigy and perform the everyday tasks of living.

That goes for his wife, Mary Jane, three feet-nine inches, their children and all members of the "Little Peiople of America."

Carlino, a metalsmith helper at Alameda Naval Air Station, says, "I had to prove my ability and willingness to work more than the average person to get a job. And we dwarfs usually stick to one job longer and are more dependable."

Carlino was a maintenance man for a Berkeley firm for 16 years before taking his present position.

The Carlino home at 5828 Santa Cruz Dr., looks like any other Richmond residential structiure—nejt, lived-in, with lawn closely clipped.

The tables, chairs and other fixtures do net belong to Tom Thumb's world, but are full-size.

This seems natural enough since two of the Carlino children, daughters Peggy, 17, and Judy, 14, are full-size, too.

The boys, Jackie, 11, and Anthony, 9, are "little people" like their parents. They jre learning to strive and achieve, as did their parents, in a world where you must look up to all strangers.

The house does have certain items which are not found elsewhere. Like two sturdy wooden boxes in the kitchen.

How else is Mrs. Carlino to reach the cooking on the range, set the table and use the cupboards?

To save time, she "walks" the wood boxes about the kitchen, instead of hopping on and off with every change of domestic task.

Still, the important kitchen items are located down low, and the superfluous items up high.

"And the girls help me reach things," says Mrs. Carlino, who owned and operated her own store in Klamath Falls, Ore., before she met her husband at a "Little People of America" national convention in Las Vegas.

"I won her at a crap table in Las Vegas. She was just the right size, so I decided to keep her," says Neno Carlino brusquely, with pride.

"I had to fight almost every day in school," says the father, who was born and raised in Berkeley, "and my boys have to look out for themselves, too."

"I know it's important to be understood in those younger years. My father was of average size, five feet eight inches, and so was my mother. He always treated me like a six footer, although I was the only little person among my four sisters.

"The boys are out for Little League. Sure, it's a long way to first base. They just have to hit the ball harder."

Getting the boys to Little League games is no problem, as it might appear.

Mother just hops behind the wheel of the full-size station wagon and away they go.

A dwarf driving a car looks normal from the outside, since his body and head are average size, and the shorter arms and legs are not visable.

Inside, are the metal extensions for the accelerator, brake and if necessary, the clutch.

Carlino makes them for his car, and also dwarf friends and others who write him for sun equipment.

"There is a woman in Minneapolis who wrote us. She wants the extensions to learn to drive. And she's only three feet two inches," he said.

There are other implements which Carlino makes for his famigy and others who request them.

A dwarf has a hard time reaching those boxes and cans high on the store display shelves. A telescoping metal shaft with hook on the end fits into the purse or pocket and is handy.

A dwarf has trouble putting coins in a public pay phone. Another extension device grips the coins.

A dwarf has trouble pushing buttons in an elevator. An extension device with rubber tip is sufficient.

While a dwarf has to adjust to this world, sometimes the worl is ready to adjust to him.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert East of Oakland are friends of the Carlinos and they get together during meetings of the San Francisco Bay Chapter of the Little Pieople of America.

Robert East is now chapter president, a post held by Carlino last year.

East works at a machine, and he stands on an elevated platform to perform his tasks.

Once, an official came around and complained about the safety of the platform, and the problems of employing a dwarf to run the machine.

"My boss said if it comes to that, they would make a hole in the floor and drop the machine into it," said East, a frequent visitor at the Carlino home.

"One of our little people chapter members died when seh was 83, and worked as a proff reader until she was 80. When she retired, they had to hire three people to do her job," remembers Carlino.

There are about 50 members of the Little People's San Francisco Bay Chapter, and most of them are working at ordinary jobs. Very few "Little People" anywhere are in circus or entertainment occupations, claims Carlino.

One problem concerns him. The local chapter has no persons of minority status.

"We welcome anybody of any color or creed, and we have heard of some black persgns in Oakland who could be members if we were able to contact them," he says.

There are chapter members who are married to persons of average size, and this is taken in stride by other members.

"If you are a little person or have parents or grandparents who are, then there is a good your children will be the same way," Carlino says.

"We have hejrd of a hormonye injection which may stimulate growth, but this works only for certain types of midgets. As for me, I'm happy just the AY I am."

Thd Carlino's are concernec about their children, though.

"Dwarfs are always con sidered a sort of novelty, at first. The boys take a lot of kidding, just as we did. I tell them to get all the education they can."

There will be another Little People' National Convention this year, in Minneapolis. Bob East is going. Neno Carlino is thinking about it.

And the wives are like all ther wives. They want to go, oo.

—Independent photo

DAUGHTER JUDY TALKS, MOM COOKS.

# San Leandro's Little People

## Now Over 70 Members In Local Chapter

"Dwarfs? Dwarfs are something out of Snow White."

"No, dwarfs are midgets that run around in circuses and carnivals."

Wrong, Dwarfs are real people with real lives, real ambitions and real problems. Real people in bodies less than four feet tall.

Approximately one out of every 10,000 people born is a dwarf, and with an estimated 200 million people in the United States about 20,000 would be little people . . . a very substantial number.

In 1963, these people bagan to band together and form a Lilliputian organization they named Little People of America (LPA) Incorporated. Under this banner, clubs arose throughout the country.

The Bay Area chapter of LPA, headquartered in San Leandro, began with 13 people and now has over 70 members.

The inventiveness and ingeniousness of the people in this club is very apparent. Having to live at a below average height has made them compensate for many things usually taken for granted.

Such things as reaching above the third floor button on an elevator, reaching gas and brake pedals and reaching shelves in a grocery store are very definite problems for a dwarf.

The LPA in San Leandro, however, is fortunate to have Bob East, a mechanic very adept at solving some of his colleagues' problems.

Reaching the elevator buttons was solved, for instance, by the conversion of an ink pen into a telescopic hook. This item comes in handy for those shelves also.

For the cars, extensions were built into the pedals to adapt them personally.

Children are not left out from the club. In fact, there is a large influence on activities for them. One in particular is the Parents Auxiliary. Their meetings consist of a work session for the parents and a party for the children.

## Little People

*One out of every 10,000 persons born is a dwarf. Dwarfs locally have united together to form the Little People of America club, headquartered in San Leandro. Kenneth Williams (center) is the club's president, while Mrs. Bob East (right) is secretary and Mrs. Neno Carlino is treasurer.*

*(Bordanaro and Zarcone Photo)*

Parents discuss different problems they may be having, plan activities, and exchange helpful hints. At the moment, the nationwide convention for LPA, to be held in Portland, Oregon, is on the minds of many.

The highlight of each of these conventions is a fashion show in three categories. The first category is purchased clothes others have remade. The second is purchased clothes made over by yourself, and the third is handmade clothes.

Fashion shows are increasingly popular because they give inspiration for different ways to minimize the little persons wardrobe.

All clothes are fashioned for the individual. Contrary to opinion, there are 50 different varieties of dwarfs. Consequently, there are a variety of problems in styling.

Another important feature of the convention is the doctors reports. Any new progress in gland problems and any new problems in general are discussed.

LPA provides a varied social life for little people and is open to new members all the time. Further information on membership can be obtained from the club president, Kenneth Williams, at 483-9860.

SINCE 1854

# The Daily Union Democrat

LEADING NEWSPAPER OF THE MOTHER LODE

21st Year, Number 147 | Sonora, California, Monday, February 3, 1975 | Single Copy, 10 Cents

# Little People Plan March Convention

The Little People of America will hold their semi-annual convention at the Sonora inn March 21, 22 and 23.

Little People is a national organization of people who are 4-foot-11 or shorter because of medical reasons.

They boast about 2,000 members nationwide. About 50 to 70 members from the 12th district which comprises Alaska, Nevada, California and Hawaii are expected to attend the convention in Sonora.

The convention will begin on Friday, March 21, with a 6 p.m. reception. Anyone from the Sonora area who qualifies as a member is invited to attend.

The only outside activity planned for the convention is a tour of Columbia on Saturday afternoon. Otherwise members will be kept busy with two board meetings and two general meetings during the three days.

Evan Artran, chairman of the convention, reports the Little People choose different locales for conventions in an effort to inform prospective members about the organization.

Little People of America was formed in 1957 by Billy Barty of Los Angeles. Artran says the group's motto is, appropriately, "Think Big."

Little People of America is not just a social organization. The group conducts fund-raising projects and supports studies in the hereditary and social effects of dwarfism being conducted by Dr. David Remoin at Harbor hospital in Torrence.

In return for funding the research, members are given free medical care.

Prospective members may write to Artran at 2511 Avon, Burbank.

Artran is president of the Los Angeles chapter of the Little People. He is a printer and met Greg Machado of Sonora when both attended Cal Poly.

He has been to Sonora many times to visit Machado, so suggested Sonora as the site for a convention of the Little People.

"LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA"
1961 NATIONAL CONVENTION NEWS

ATTENTION DISTRICT CHAIRMAN: LLOYD KING, MARJORIE DOCKRAY, PHYLISS MILLAR, CLINT LESTER, LEE KITCHENS, BOB BROWER, FRANCIS CONVILLE, MARJORIE BOURASSA, GRACE FOSTER, BILL ALBAUGH, ROBERT HINKSON, MARION VAN HARKEN.

I have just informed our President, Mr. Dan Turner, about the procedure of contact to our 1961 National Convention which we all know will be held at the Hacienda Hotel in Las Vegas. The Dates should also be known to you. They are November 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th. This is a Monday thru Thursday convention.

In order to save time, I am mailing the proposed program and information to each District Chairman so that the District Chairman can inform the people in his district. It is, as we know, the duty of each District Chairman to take care of their respective District. I feel that, due to the fact our National Mailing List is not completely compiled, this is the best method to use.

You have already received my newsletter, in which I informed you about the reservation dates. You should also be aware of the fact that the Hacienda is giving us free rooms, half price on food. Transportation should be a problem that should be solved by Each District Chairman. Many District Chairmen have already proceeded to solve said problems in the District in which he is chairman. Bill Albaugh arranged for flights from St. Louis, Chicago, and Detroit, which I feel should not be overlooked. Grace Foster is working with Mr. Albaugh and I believe that, according to reports, only 40 flights are available from all three places. The District Chairman should contact Mr. Albaugh in regards to this matter. The Hacienda will reimburse those people who form a car pool and drive. Gasoline money that is.

I feel that by sending each District Chairman this program, it will not only inform the District Chairman but will expedite matters and will give a more personal approach to old and new members. It will also save time due to the fact the National Mailing list and District Chairman list are not available.

I am sure that this procedure of mailing direct to the District Chairman is the best and sure-fire way to make this next National Convention a great one for all Little People.

I would suggest that all District Chairmen be prepared to bring matters of importance on paper to our first board meeting so that we can relax more than yours truly did at the last convention and get our problems solved early. Now we have a team, we should all work as a team. ALL committee reports should be available, plus all important officers' reports. There are many things to solve and to be done so without more preaching, which I sometimes find myself doing in letters I will get down to this program which is our present concern.

The death of Art Noble is a shocking one, and we all will pay honor to him at the National Convention.

Sincerely,

Billy Barty

Billy Barty
946 N. Normandie, Los Angeles, Calif.

LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA
1961 NATIONAL CONVENTION
HACIENDA HOTEL,
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

WHERE

THE HACIENDA HOTEL IN LAS VEGAS NEVADA HAS AGAIN EXTENDED THE COURTESY OF THE HOTEL TO THE LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA.

WHEN

THE DATES FOR THE NATIONAL CONVENTION ARE NOVEMBER 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th. THIS IS A MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND THURSDAY.

WHY

WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY SINCE THE FIRST NATIONAL CONVENTION HELD AT THE RIVERSIDE HOTEL IN RENO, NEVADA IN 1957. FROM A MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF TWENTY PEOPLE, THE ORGANIZATION HAS GROWN TO MORE THAN 700. WE ARE MEETING THE WORLD FACE TO FACE.

RESERVATIONS:

THERE IS A BLANK FOR YOU TO FILL OUT ON THE LAST PAGE. YOUR RESERVATION MUST BE IN BETWEEN NOVEMBER 10TH AND 17TH. YOUR RESERVATIONS WILL BE CONFIRMED DUE TO THE FACT THE TURN OUT THIS YEAR IS EXPECTED TO BE TREMENDOUS. THE ROOMS ARE BEAUTIFUL AND THE FACILITIES ARE GREAT. THE HOSPITALITY OF THE HACIENDA HOTEL IS OUT OF THIS WORLD, JUST ASK ANYONE WHO ATTENDED LAST YEAR'S CONVENTION. MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS AT THE HACIENDA HOTEL IN LAS VEGAS NOW, AND AVOID THE RUSH. IF A RESERVATION IS MADE WITH THE POST MARK PAST THE 17TH OF NOVEMBER YOU WILL BE ON YOUR OWN.

TRANSPORTATION:

CONTACT YOUR DISTRICT CHAIRMAN FOR TRANSPORTATION PLANS. BILL ALBAUGH AND GRACE FOSTER WILL HELP SOLVE YOUR PROBLEMS WITH FLIGHTS ORIGINATING FROM CHICAGO, ST. LOUIS, AND DETROIT. THIS IS A LIMITED OFFER SO HURRY. THOSE PEOPLE WHO FORM A CAR POOL WILL BE REIMBURSED FOR THE MONEY SPENT ON GASOLINE. BILLY BARTY WILL ARRANGE FOR FREE FLIGHTS FROM LOS ANGELES, SAN DIEGO AND SAN FRANCISCO.

WHO IS INVITED:

EVERY LITTLE PERSON OF AMERICA (MIDGETS AND DWARFS) IS INVITED. ANYONE WHO HAS NOT BECOME A MEMBER WILL BE CHARGED A $2.00 REGISTRATION FEE. CHILDREN EXCLUDED. BUT, CHILDREN, WHICH WE CALL LITTLE LITTLES, ARE MORE THAN WELCOME TO ATTEND. IF THEY ARE UNDER AGE THEIR PARENTS OR GUARDIAN SHALL RECEIVE THE SAME BENEFITS AS ALL LITTLE PEOPLE. IF ANY LITTLE PERSON IS MARRIED TO A BIG ONE THEN THE HUSBAND OR WIFE IS ALSO WELCOME. BRING YOUR CHILDREN AS BABY SITTERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR HIRE.

READ WHAT TO EXPECT, YOU WON'T BELIEVE IT BUT IT'S TRUE.

1. FREE ROOMS, FREE ROOMS.
2. HALF PRICE FOR ALL FOOD (STRONGER BEVERAGES AND LADY LUCK EXCLUDED)
3. FREE SWIMMING
4. LITTLE OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT
5. FREE NIGHT ON THE HACIENDA TO A TOP FLIGHT SHOW.
6. FASHION SHOW (Girls make your own design of dress, suit, or what you know and win) You be the model, Official judges will award the prizes.

7. HACIENDA COCKTAIL PARTY AND BANQUET
8. BASEBALL GAME BETWEEN EASTERN BANTAMS AND WESTERN SHORTIES
9. WOMEN GRAB BAG PARTY (Bring something useful for someone else)
10. TALENT SHOW (If you play a musical instrument, sing, dance or anything)
11. REIMBURSEMENT OF GASOLINE MONEY TO CAR POOL DRIVERS.
12. GOOD RATES ON AIRPLANE HACIENDA LINES
13. BE A KING AND QUEEN (CHOSEN FROM YOUNG MARRIED COUPLE)
14. BE A PRINCE OR PRINCESS (YOUNG UNMARRIED PEOPLE)
15. SELECTION OF MR. AND MRS. LILLIPUT (MARRIED COUPLE OVER 50)
16. BE A TEENAGE KING AND QUEEN
17. TWO FIVE HUNDRED SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED TO THE DEVRY INSTITUTE IN CHICAGO. RADIO AND ELECTRONIC COURSES
18. EVERYONE SHOW UP. REMEMBER: FREE ROOMS, HALF PRICE FOR FOOD. ONLY YOU CAN MAKE THIS A GREAT BIG LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA NATIONAL CONVENTION.

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1961 NATIONAL CONVENTION
LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA
PROPOSED PROGRAM

FIRST DAY. MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27th, 1961

9:00 A.M. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IN CONFERENCE ROOM
9:00 A.M. REGISTRATION IN FRONT LOBBY.
- A. REGISTER FOR HOTEL ROOM
- B. REGISTER AT LITTLE PEOPLE DESK
  1. Sign for Golf (men)
  2. Sign for talent show
  3. Sign for fashion show (women)
  4. Women for auction

NON-MEMBERS OR CARD HOLDERS MUST PAY $2.00 REGISTRATION FEE. CHILDREN EXCLUDED UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE FROM PAYING REGISTRATION FEE.

10:00 A.M. GENERAL WOMENS MEETING IN PALAMINO ROOM
10:00 A.M. PRESS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS MEET BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS IN CONFERENCE ROOM.
10:00 A.M. LITTLE LITTLES' MEETING IN CONFERENCE ROOM.

12:30 P.M. LUNCH
- A. GENERAL LUNCH
- B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS LUNCH

1:15 P.M. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING. CONFERENCE ROOM.
WOMENS FIRST NOMINATING MEETING. PALAMINO ROOM.

3:00 P.M. RECESS. INFORMAL GATHERING IN MAIN ROOM.

5:00 P.M. RECEPTION IN PALAMINO ROOM. CHAMPAGNE, SOFT DRINKS.

6:00 P.M. BUFFET DINNER IN PALAMINO ROOM. ADULTS $2.00 CHILDREN $1.35.

7:30 P.M. INFORMAL GET TOGETHER IN LOUNGE

FREE SHOW TO BE DESIGNATED

SECOND DAY. TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28th, 1961.

10:00 A.M. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING. PALAMINO ROOM

SEATING BY DISTRICTS

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER.
2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG. ANDRE BOURSEE.
3. INVOCATION. CLINT LESTER, CHAPLAIN.
4. IN MEMORIAM OF ART NOBLE, CLINT LESTER.
5. INTRODUCTION OF OFFICERS.
6. INTRODUCTION OF DISTRICT CHAIRMEN.
7. INTRODUCTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS.
8. INTRODUCTION OF LITTLE LITTLES OFFICERS.
9. COMMENCE PROGRAM.
10. HISTORY OF LITTLE PEOPLE.
11. BUSINESS PROCEDURE.

PROGRAM OF CONVENTION BE REVIEWED.
MEMBERSHIP CONSIDER NOMINATIONS FOR MR. AND MRS. LILLIPUT; KING AND QUEEN; PRINCE AND PRINCESS, AND TEENAGE KING AND QUEEN.

12:30 P.M. LUNCH OF YOUR CHOICE.

1:30 P.M. GOLF TOURNAMENT AT PITCH AND PUTT COURSE.

1:30 P.M. WOMENS GRAB BAG. PALAMINO ROOM.

2:30 P.M. WOMENS FASHION SHOW. PALAMINO ROOM.

5:00 P.M. CHAMPAGNE HOUR, HACIENDA HOTEL.

6:00 P.M. DINNER OF YOUR CHOICE.

8:00 P.M. DANCING, MUSIC, REFRESHMENTS. PALAMINO ROOM. (ADULTS ONLY)

11:00 P.M. EVENING OPEN.

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THIRD DAY. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29th, 1961.

10:00 A.M. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING. PALAMINO ROOM.

12:00 NOON LUNCH OF YOUR CHOICE.

1:30 P.M. EASTERN BANTAM, WESTERN SHORTIES BASEBALL GAME (FIELD TO BE DESIGNATED LATER)

6:00 P.M. RECEPTION. PALAMINO ROOM.

7:00 P.M. DINNER OF YOUR CHOICE.

8:30 P.M. BINGO IN PALAMINO ROOM.

10:30 P.M. YOUR EVENING OF FUN

1961 NATIONAL CONVENTION
LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA

PAGE FOUR.

FOURTH DAY. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 1961

9:00 A.M. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING. COMPLETE COMMITTEE REPORTS. CONFERENCE ROOM.

10:00 A.M. MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA. CARD HOLDERS ONLY.

A. PASS OUT MAILING LIST.
B. PASS OUT CONSTITUTION
C. WELCOME NEW CARD HOLDERS
D. PRESIDENT REPORTS.

12:30 P.M. LUNCH OF YOUR CHOICE

1:30 P.M. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF ALL LITTLE PEOPLE. PALAMINO ROOM.

5:00 P.M. RECEPTION. PALAMINO ROOM.

6:00 P.M. FINAL DINNER BANQUET.

A. AWARD OF PRIZES
B. PICTURES PRESENTED
C. TALENT SHOW.

---

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

| | |
|---|---|
| GENERAL CO-ORDINATOR: | MRS. ANNA DIXON |
| REGISTRATION: | MISS SHIRLEY BOLINGBROKE<br>MISS ISADORA CARON<br>MRS. BILL ALBAUGH<br>MRS. BOB BROWER<br>MRS. JEAN MICHAELS |
| FASHION SHOW & AUCTION: | MYRTLE TROBROUGH<br>FRANCIS CONVILLE<br>ANNA DIXON<br>HILDA LANGE |
| GOLF CHAIRMAN: | MR. J. C. SCHLAIS |
| TALENT CHAIRMAN: | MR. BILLY BARTY |
| BASEBALL CAPTAINS: | EASTERN BANTAMS: BILL ALBAUGH<br>WESTERN SHORTIES: BILLY BARTY |
| PHOTOGRAPH CHAIRMAN: | HAROLD SCHULMAN |

1961 NATIONAL CONVENTION
LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA



## NATIONAL OFFICERS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| NATIONAL ADVISOR: FOUNDER | MR. BILLY BARTY | |
| PRESIDENT: | MR. DANNIEL TURNER | P.O. BOX 1951, Asheville,N.C. |
| VICE PRESIDENT: | MR. ART NOBLE (DECEASED) | 636 N. EAST ST., Indianapolis, Indiana |
| TREASURER: | MR. ROBERT HINKSON | CLARKSVILLE PIKE, Ellicott City, Maryland |
| EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: | MR. JIM LILES | P.O. BOX 1951, Asheville, N.C. |
| RECORDING SECRETARY: | MRS. LAUNA KINZEL | 6848 NORTH AGNES, North Hollywood, Calif. |
| SERGEANT-AT-ARMS | MR. JERRY MAREN | 1533 North McCadden Place Los Angeles 28, Calif. |

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| EDUCATIONAL CHAIRMAN: | MR. LEE KITCHENS | 7429 WENTWOOD DR., Dallas 25, Texas |
| PUBLIC RELATIONS: | MR. BILL ALBAUGH<br>MR. BILLY BARTY | 322 - 2nd ELISIAN AVE., Camden, N. Y. |
| HISTORIAN: | MISS MARJORIE BOURASSA | 74 WALNUT STREET, Manchester, New Hampshire |
| EMPLOYMENT: | MR. BILLY BARTY | 946 North Normandie Los Angeles, Calif. |

## DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

| DISTRICT | STATES | CHAIRMAN |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts Rhode Island, Connecticut. | MISS MARJORIE BOURASSA |
| 2. | New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania | MISS MARION VAN HARKEN<br>161 BUENA VISTA,<br>Hawthorne, New Jersey |
| 3. | District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina | MR. ROBERT HINKSON<br>CLARKSVILLE PIKE<br>Ellicott City, Maryland |
| 4. | Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi | MISS FRANCIS CONVILLE<br>1932 CANON STREET<br>Decatur, Georgia |

DISTRICT CHAIRMAN
(Continued)

PAGE SIX

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 5. | Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee. | MISS GRACE FOSTER<br>307 SHUMAN STREET<br>Crown Point, Indiana |
| 6. | Illinois, Wisconsin. | MARJORIE DOCKRAY<br>1414 DRUMMOND STREET<br>Eau Claire, Wisconsin |
| 7. | Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma. | MISS PHYLLIS MILLER<br>203 NORTH 4TH STREET<br>Edwardsville, Kansas |
| 8. | Louisiana, Texas. | MR. LEE KITCHENS<br>7429 WENTWOOD DR.<br>Dallas 25, Texas |
| 9. | Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska. | MR. BOB BROWER<br>2665 WISCONSIN<br>Des Moines, Iowa |
| 10. | Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah. | MR. CLINT LESTER<br>GRANT MOTOR LODGE<br>923 Santa Fe Ave.,<br>Grant, New Mexico |
| 11. | Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming. | MR. LLOYD KING<br>2012 E. 4th STREET<br>Olympia, Washington |
| 12. | California, Nevada. | MR. BILLY BARTY<br>MR. ~~BILL~~ ALBAUGH |
| 13. | Alaska | |
| 14. | Hawaii | MR. BILL ALBAUGH |

WE EXPECT A GREAT TURNOUT. WE WOULD ALL APPRECIATE IT IF SINGLE PERSONS WOULD SHARE ROOMS. IF YOU HAVE A CHOICE, PLEASE DESIGNATE WHOM YOU WISH.

==========

ROOM RESERVATION REQUEST

Number in Party_____ Adults_____ Children_____ Time Expected_____

Type Rooms: ☐ Single ☐ Twin ☐ Double ☐ Double-Double

Are you willing to share a room? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(Signed) _____

Little People of America Convention - November 27, 28, 29, 30, 1961
Hacienda Hotel, Las Vegas. MAIL RESERVATION DIRECT TO HOTEL.

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# She Was First to Fall

By FRANK S. JOSEPH

CHICAGO (AP) — Tiny Broadwick says she took her first 2,000-foot fall 57 years ago.

She kept at it for 14 years with "nothing more serious than broken bones — and that's not serious."

Tiny, 72, says she is the first person in the United States to parachute from an airplane. About 250 members of the OX5 Club of America have gathered in Chicago to honor her and talk over the good old days of barnstorming.

The gray-haired lady with the appropriate name — she stands 4 feet 10 and weighs 110 pounds — pulled an old photo from her purse during an interview.

The photo showed a teen-age girl in a World War I leather flying helmet. She was dangling from the side of a vintage hydroplane, her skirts windwhipped about her thighs, about to leap.

"That's me," Tiny said.

Born Georgia Tiny Thompson in Henderson, N.C., she made her first parachute jump in 1908 at age 15 out of a hot-air balloon. She says she made 11,000 leaps from balloons and planes before quitting in 1922. Her first airplane leap, she says, was made June 21, 1913.

But the money — sometimes as much as $300 a day — dribbled away. The spunky great-grandmother now works as a practical nurse in Los Angeles.

The "tiny, chance-taking slip of a girl" who made the "amazing, startling, nerve-tingling leap from a military aeroplane 3,000 feet in the sky," as a 1913 poster describes her, sometimes ran out of luck.

Once in Greensboro, N.C., leaping out of a hot-air balloon, she plummeted onto the top of a building and rolled off.

"I broke my arm," she said, "and got my face all skinned. In those days, we wore little white dresses. There was blood all over my dress. I thought I was dead."

The OX5ers, as they call themselves, honor Tiny at a banquet tonight at their 10th annual convention. They are aviation old-timers who flew planes powered by the Curtiss OX5 engine — the power plant of the World War I "Jenny" trainers and many other planes.

# Dwarf named Tina has 5 pound baby

CLEVELAND (UPI) — A 29inch-tall dwarf known as Tiny Tina on the carnival and fair circuit gave birth Wednesday to an 18 1-2-inch son weighing five pounds, nine ounces.

Gloria Hurd, 23, Orlando, Fla., and her son, Anthony Timbatchu, were listed in good condition at Forest City Hospital, where doctors said the baby--delivered by Cesarean section—appeared normal.

"You can say it is a very unusual case," said Dr. David Wallace who, along with a team of seven specialists, delivered the baby in a 1½ hour operation.

Ms. Hurd usually weighs between 42 and 44 pounds, according to her manager, Clarence Samuels.

"When Gloria came into the hospital she was all baby," said Mrs. Fred G. Hurd, Gloria's mother. "She was as wide as she was tall."

Friends said the baby's father is about six feet tall. The mother and father are not married, it was reported.

LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA, INC.
OF DIST. 12 LOS ANGELES CHAPTER
14815 S. CRENSHAW BLVD.
GARDENA, CALIFORNIA
PHONE 644-2771

EVERY L.P.A. MEMBER

SHOULD BE
AN ACTIVE
PARTICIPANT

ON THE PUBLIC RELATIONS

T
E
A
M

SPEAK TO PEOPLE: THERE IS NOTHING AS NICE AS A CHEERFUL WORD OF GREETING.

SMILE AT PEOPLE: IT TAKES 72 MUSCLES TO FROWN AND ONLY 14 TO SMILE.

CALL PEOPLE BY NAME: ANYONE CONSIDERS THE SOUND OF HIS OWN NAME MUSIC.

BE ALBERT TO GIVE SERVICE: WHAT COUNTS MOST IN LIFE IS WHAT WE DO FOR OTHERS.

BE CORDIAL: SPEAK AND ACT AS IF EVERYTHING YOU DO WERE A GENUINE PLEASURE.

BE GENEROUS WITH PRAISE: ALWAYS BE CAUTIOUS WITH CRITICISM.

BE GENUINELY INTERESTED IN PEOPLE: YOU CAN LIKE EVERYONE IF YOU TRY.

BE CONSIDERATE WITH THE FEELINGS OF OTHERS: IT WILL INDEED BE APPRECIATED.

BE THOUGHTFUL OF THE OPINIONS OF OTHERS: THERE ARE THREE SIDES TO A QUESTION -- YOURS, THE OTHER FELLOWS AND THE TRUTH.

BE FRIENDLY AND HELPFUL: IF YOU WANT TO BE A GOOD PUBLIC RELATIONS MEDIA -- THEN BE FRIENDLY AND HELPFUL AND SPEAK WELL OF THE L.P.A.

**Down to America's funland. . . .**

DISTRICT 12

Row 1 (l-r): Carolyn Strange, Ginny Myers, Joan Cecil, Debbie Dixon, Stacie Nichols, Shirley Berg, Ellis Harper, Shirley Barty, Billy Barty, George Moore, Joy Campbell, and Betty Nichols. Row 2 (l-r): George Rossitto, Alan Nichols and David Conley. Row 3 (l-r): Andre Bourasse, Lyle Myers, Mary Ann Schroeder, Kathy McGuire, Georgia Guild, Lillie Johnson, Bobbie Owen, Alice Miranda, Collette Bernay, Donna Lathers, Jackie East and Bonnie Silla. Row 4 (l-r): Bob Burgan, Peter Norman, Arthur Doty, Dana Guild, Shirley Rosenberg, Mickey Rosenberg, Harriet Seevers, Darrell Dietrich, Tom Henderson, Stan Buce, Richard LaRussa, Harriet Stickney, Bob East, Al Stickney, Connie Cummings, Felix and Sue Silla.

RECENT MEETING OF DISTRICT # 12

# 100 Small Folk to Hold Big Oakland Conclave

Oakland Tribune
Fri., Sept. 4, 1964 15

Some 100 persons from throughout California and Nevada will gather in Oakland tomorrow for the three-day convention of the Little People of America, Inc., District 12.

Hosted by the Bay Area chapter of the organization, the convention at Foothill Boulevard Women's Club will open at 4 p.m. with registration.

A general session will open at 6 p.m., with a guest speaker at 8 p.m., followed by dancing from 9 p.m. until midnight.

Sunday will be taken up with an all-day picnic at Redwood Regional Park and Monday with visits to friends and sightseeing.

It will be the second annual convention for District 12, which has 309 members. The national membership is 3,000.

# Marty Rogers, One Of Life's Little People, Learns To Be Tall In Stature

By Helen Bottel

There was a time, after 7 year old Martin Rogers realized he was different from his classmates at Mark Twain School, that the difference became a real problem to him and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rogers of 5201 Ortego Street.

Martin, a handsome, dexterous youngster, seems older than his years in intelligence and muscular coordination, but women seeing him for the first time have a tendency to pick him up, ruffle his hair and coo: "What a darling little boy!"

Marty, you see, stopped growing normally at 10 months of age. "He weighed nine pounds at birth," says his mother, Helen Rogers, "but by the time he was 2 he was really running behind. We refused to be overly concerned until age 4 when a doctor diagnosed dwarfism."

**Problem Dwindles**

The 7 year old now weighs 31 pounds and wears size three clothes, but his lack of height no longer bothers him. When children with tactless honesty, yell "hi, midget," he grins. Best of all his parents and two older sisters have stopped feeling over protective and over senstitive to the remarks of others. They realize that no matter how Marty's malfunctioning pituitary gland affects his size, a person's stature is what he makes it.

Mr. and Mrs. Rogers attribute the change mainly to Little People Of America, an organization whose slogan, Think Big, gives a clue to its purpose. They hope a branch can be soon started in Sacramento and urge anyone interested to call Mrs. Rogers at 451-3391.

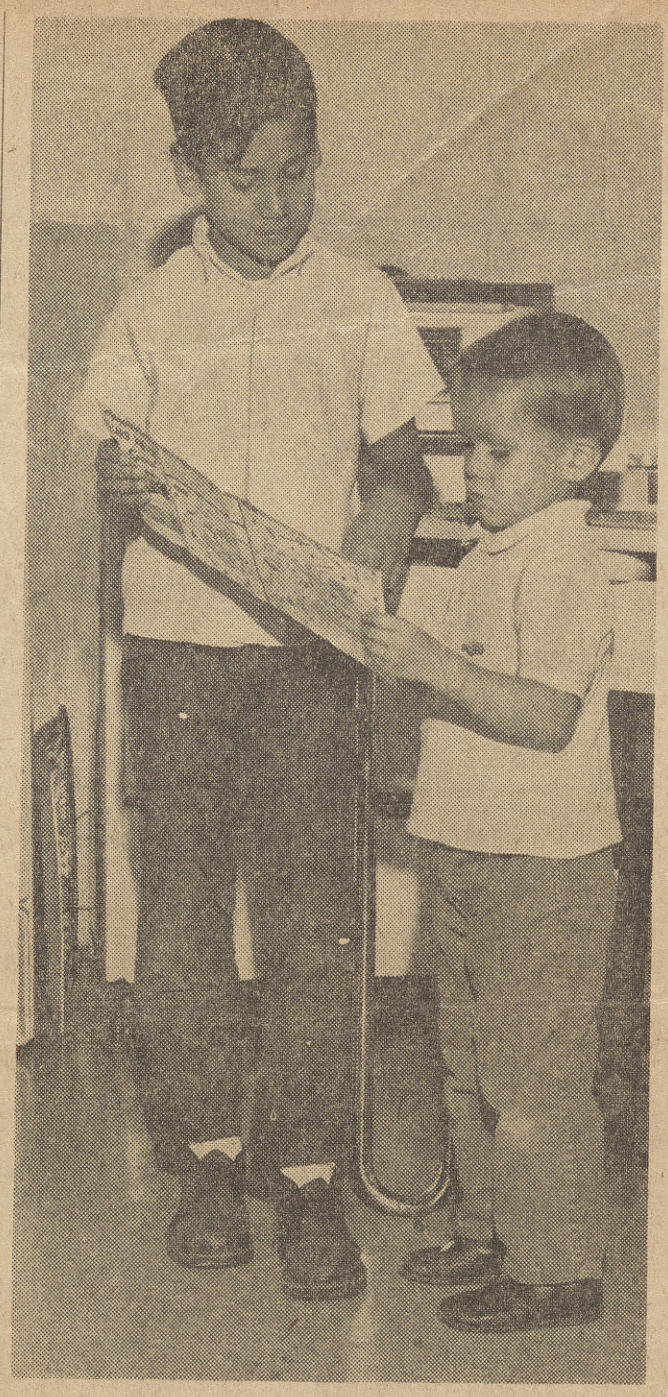
"I discovered LPA," says Mrs. Rogers, "while desperately searching the library for anything that might pertain to our situation."

In a magazine article she learned Little People Of America was founded in 1955 by Billy Barty, Hollywood radio and television personality, "to open a new world of understanding, friendship and enjoyment" for persons sharing the same problem of smallness.

She wrote to Barty who directed her to the nearest club in Oakland and soon the whole family was attending every meeting.

**Single Concession**

There they met Bob East, president of the Oakland chapter and western district director for the national organization. He and his wife Elsie, three feet, 10 inches tall, think big in everything they do.



Smallness no longer bothers Martin Rogers, pictured above with Tim Calahan, his normal sized friend. Both boys are 7.

Their only concession to smallness—East is nine inches taller than his wife—are a few cutdown chairs. They are active in Scouting, the Parent Teacher Association, other community projects where people a third again their height consider them leaders. Their son, a normal sized lad of 12, towers above them, but few of the problems they expected in discipline or attitude have arisen. The road, however, has not been easy. Through LPA, East hopes to make it easier for others.

Several years after their marriage, the Easts helped organize the LPA group in Oakland, hoping, in East's words, "to bring the little people out into the world, alleviate their shyness and help them find employment."

A visit to a club meeting is all it takes to convince the guest that little people can make big successes of their lives. Here you meet all types: Teachers, engineers, blue and white collar workers, homemakers, college students, nurses, executives — but not too many are in show business any more.

"The war brought us out from under the big top and put us into industry," says East. "We hate to be associated with the word circus or carnival. We aren't freaks."

**6,000 In US**

One of the youngest members is Marty Rogers who, says his mother, has become a different boy since joining Little People. Marty's type of dwarfism is called hypo pituitary, which means he is formed perfectly, but in miniature. Acondroplastic dwarves such as the Easts have shortened legs and arms with nearly normal sized bodies and heads. The popular terms for these two types are midget and dwarf, but most dictionaries make no such distinction, defining both as very small people. It is estimated there are about 6,000 of them in the United States. Of these, about half belong to Little People Of America.

The club not only welcomes little people, but also the parents or guardians of "little littles," as they are called. Members are especially alert to the worries of the young and have organized a youth section where problems are discussed and often solved, and little ones like Marty Rogers learn to make the most of their smallness. A scholarship program offers opportunities.

**Way To Normal Life**

"We are trying to impress upon our youngsters," says East, "that their main avenue toward a normal life is through good and soundly based education. You aren't judged as tall or short when it comes to what you have in the arts or sciences. You're judged by what you can contribute. That's the kind of dream we want for young people who discover they're not going to be as tall as others. We want them to say: 'So what? We can be smarter.' "

## The Grab Bag

IT'S NOT UNUSUAL for short parents to have tall children, but it's highly unlikely that tall parents will have short children.

WHAT IS the largest number of caesarian operations any mother ever survived? That question came up in the conversation the other day. Just 14, I'd say. That's how many caesarians Judith Skinner underwent. In London more than 200 years ago. She was 26 inches tall. Her husband Robert Skinner was 25 inches tall. Each of their 14 children grew up to full size.

32-22-32

# Size 1 Dresses For Tiny Women

By GAY PAULEY

NEW YORK (UPI) — What next? A size zero dress?

Statistically, women are getting taller with each generation. Figures from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) show the average young woman (age 18-24) of today is within a fraction of 5 feet 4 inches in height. The average for a comparable age more than half a century ago (women now aged 75 to 79) is just a shade over 5 feet 1 inch.

But obviously, figures sometimes are misleading about the American woman's figure. Amid all the size 12s and 14s, the gals stretching to 5 feet 9 inches, there still are plenty of little women.

So diminutive are some of today's women that one manufacturer has come out with a size ONE for dresses. He's done it, he says, by popular demand.

Now size 1 sounds like something from the infants' department. But so did size 3 when it came out a few years ago to startle the fashion world.

But the clothes for these small women are adult in styling—not designed to make the little woman "look like a little girl, babyish," said Eva Bernard, fashion coordinator for the firm, Stacy Ames' Kelly Arden department, wich has introduced the size 1.

"The tiny woman can wear just about any style her big sister can," said Miss Bernard, who's a size 7. But the size 1 designs, by stylist Judith Renstrom (5 feet 8 inches), are simple in line. No gingerbread trimming, said Miss Bernard.

"For spring 1965 we're showing a lot of mobile (full, swinging) skirts. One sailor collar number with A-line skirt is doing well with the buyers. But if we do a blouson top, for instance, we'd keep the skirt very slim so the tiny woman doesn't look square.

"Small women, we've found, like to look smaller," said Miss Bernard. "We figure the size 1 will be bragging to the size 3s that they're tinier."

Miss Bernard said the firm decided to go down to 1 when buyers relayed customer complaints—they were having to buy 3s and go through expensive alterations.

Just how many women are tiny enough for the 1 no one is sure. But there must be thousands. Miss Bernard's firm is cutting the 1s by the thousands, anyway, as orders pour in. So far, most of the ordering has come from the South, but Mis Bernard isn't sure whether this is because Southern women are smaller, or because the 1 was first introduced at the Dallas market for buyers.

If you want to know the size of a 1, Miss Bernard gave these pattern measurements — 31 and ¾-inch bust, 21¾-inch waist, 32-inch hip. Her larger sister, size 3, is 32¾-22¾-33.

They make a missy size 12 sound like a dress for an Amazon by comparison — 37inch bust, 27 waist, 37½ hip.


LITTLE PEOPLE

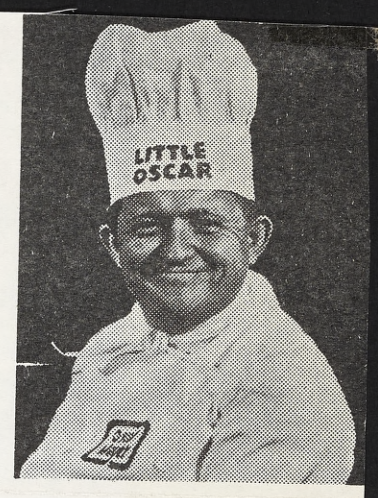
Pituitary Midget Type – Under 54 Inches Tall

Oscar Mayer

SALES PROMOTION

AND

PUBLIC RELATIONS




We offer an outstanding opportunity in our Sales Promotion Department for a midget type male to be Little Oscar and represent Oscar Mayer & Co. Successful candidate must be able to travel extensively and promote our products at store level. Will train man with appropriate personality and ability to learn our program.

Salary commensurate with ability. Liberal company benefits.

Write: J. R. Smidebush
Marketing Personnel Manager
Oscar Mayer & Co.
Madison, Wisconsin 53701

# NEWSLETTER

## LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA, INC.

"Think Big"

VOLUME 3 NO. 11 L.P.A. DECEMBER 1964


# Season's Greetings

## A THOUGHT FOR CHRISTMAS

### By Joe White

Members of Little People of America, Inc., I would like to discuss with you the subject of religious activities for little people.

I am reminded of a little man who faced the same problem as you and I; and there is something about this incident in his life that contains a message for all of us, whether we be Protestant, Catholic or Jew. This man's name was ZACCHAEUS.

In the Book of St. Luke, in the New Testament of the Christian Bible, we have a description of this little man and his relationship with Christ:

*And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus....And he sought to see Jesus and could not....because he was Little of Stature. So he ran and climbed into a sycamore tree to see Him. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up....and said unto him: Zacchaeus, come down, for today I must rest at thy house! Zacchaeus hurried down and received Him joyfully.*

In a spiritual sense, each of us can learn, from this story, four lessons in regards to our service to God:

1 - Zacchaeus made a confession of spiritual weakness.
2 - He sincerely desired to make restitution.
3 - Regardless of his size, his services were needed.
4 - His services were rewarded by the Master's companionship.

Where are the places of Service for Little People today?

There is the church Sunday School or Catechism classes. There is the school of the synagogue. You can serve by giving your support to such church and social organizations as: Women's Aid Society, Board of Missions, Holy Name Society, Children's Bible Classes, Boy and Girl Scouts, and Old Folks Homes. You can serve by being hospital volunteers and nurses aids. You can volunteer your physical and monetary support to all of these and other church sponsored and charitable institutions.

All of these organizations and groups in your community need the help of Little People - Little People who understand suffering, Little People who have time on their hands to put to use in the service of humanity, Little People who can be a spiritual and moral influence in their communities.

Why did Jesus single out this little man and insist upon abiding in his house and no other? I believe that He did so because He wanted to show His disciples - He wanted to show his followers, - He wanted show the multitude - that He could use the talents of ANYONE - even of this little man.

Whether you be Catholic, Protestant or Jew, there is a place of service in the church or synagogue for you. You are not too small, you are not too frail, you are not too weak, that God cannot find things for your tiny hands to do.

You can serve as teachers of the young, you can serve as a daily example of the Godly life, you can pray for the work of your church everywhere, and you can serve by doing good to others even though they do ill to you.

And so, let little ZACCHAEUS be your spiritual guide as you settle once again into your community life - to seek out new avenues of religious and charitable service.

To paraphrase the words of our late and great president, - JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY - who, himself was cut down in the afternoon of a life of service:

ASK NOT WHAT YOUR CHURCH CAN DO FOR YOU, BUT ASK WHAT YOU CAN DO TO SERVE YOUR CHURCH, YOUR COMMUNITY - AND YOUR GOD.

Part of the Green Bay members included:
(l-r) Row 1: Johathan Hill, Brad Hendrickson, Bruce Merrill, Jo Ellen Urban holding Scott Williams, Mary McGrath and Gerald Rasa
Row 2: Robert Day, Tom LeMay, Eva Church, Hank Anderson and Denise Mineau

Love, Sister Denise

**DEAR ABBY:** I would like to help "Little Guy" who wants information on "Little People of America." If he had called the Reference Department of any Public Library, he could have saved a lot of time.

Briefly, it was founded in 1957, has 2000 members and is divided geographically into 12 districts.

Its members are persons of the proportionate or disproportionate dwarf types, and others 4 feet 11 inches or under; it includes children in these classifications, who are known as "Little Littles."

Purpose: To provide fellowship, interchange of ideas, solutions to common problems of little people, and to promote fair dealings and a better understanding between members and normal-sized people. Aids in exchange of information on housing, jobs, clothes, shoes, sports, education, etc.

Annual convention, Motto: "Think Big."

Address: Box 126

Owatonna, Minnesota 55060

A REFERENCE LIBRARIAN

**DEAR LIBRARIAN: Many thanks! I have used the reference department of my public library for years. Readers, why don't you? You pay for that service with your taxes, and it's available for the asking.**

# Dwarfed Children Aided by Hormone

By PENELOPE McMULLAN

NEW YORK — Ilene Ruderman is going on 18. "A girl her age should be going out to parties and on dates," her mother says. "But of course she can't." Ilene is the size of a 10 - year - old. She is only 52 inches tall, because she is a hypopituitary dwarf, a condition resulting from a growth hormone deficiency.

Ilene is one of the 400 children with various growth problems who have come to Meadowbrook Hospital's Growth Clinic. The clinic was started in 1967 by Dr. Platon Jack Collipp to do research into growth problems, which affect between 500,000 and 1,000,000 American children.

The condition afflicting Ilene, which accounts for about 10 per cent of the clinic's cases, stems from the failure of the pituitary gland, a small organ at the base of the head, to release growth hormones into the body. If it works properly, the hormone makes the body grow by stimulating protein synthesis, increasing fat breakdown for energy and keeping the sugar level stable.

Injections of the growth hormone will help her achieve a normal adult height. The normal height for an adult woman is five feet four inches, and for a man, five feet, eight inches.

The key to helping these children is the availability of growth hormone, and it is scarce. The federally - run National Pituitary Agency in Baltimore is in charge of collecting pituitary glands following autopsies and distributing them to researchers around the country. But since the gland is not donated as readily at death as eyes and other organs, the agency is only able to collect a few hundred thousand a year. That is not enough.

It takes between 50 and 200 glands to treat one child for a year.

Collipp estimates that he could help 100 children in his clinic with the hormone. "But I kept my request down this year because I knew I wouldn't get what I really need," he says. He asked for enough to treat 22 children. But he was granted only enough for eight, and that for only nine months.

Treatment runs longer than that. The children stop growing once the treatment stops. Ideally a child should receive three hormone injections a week from the time the condition is discovered in the child until normal growth is achieved.

"The children are so hopeful," Ilene's mother, Mrs. Albert Ruderman says, "but they're let down. It's very heartbreaking that there is something that can help but you can't get it."

Ilene is one of the lucky ones who will receive the injections. The others will have to wait until researchers come up with a synthesized hormone, or are able to find an animal hormone that will stimulate growth in humans.

Other conditions seen in the clinic stem from illnesses that can retard growth, such as liver and kidney diseases, malnutrition, and regional enteritis in teen - agers. Once the primary illness is treated, the growth rate improves. About half the patients suffer from constitutional growth delay.

They are normal children whose growth is simply slow, and who will not reach their adult height until they are perhaps 25. Collipp says growth hormone could help them, but the supply has to be limited only to those who have a hormone deficiency. It also might help children who inherit their short bodies, and cannot be given the injections because of its scarcity.

Children with the hormone deficiency who have been given the injections have grown as much as four to five inches in a year, Collipp says. "Rarely have children who have received the hormone not grown at all." But he is now doing research into antibody resistance which seems to develop after children have been on the treatment for a time.

The psychological adjustment of these truly short children and their parents is often difficult, Collipp says. "Ilene would like to do volunteer work," Mrs. Ruderman says, "but it's been hard to find because she is so small."

A nonprofit organization of parents of such children, Human Growth, Inc., tries to help when counseling is needed and also tries to educate the public to be more understanding. "It's very hard," Mrs. Ruderman says. "The majority of the public just doesn't realize."

Collipp explains: "I tell parents that the children see themselves in the mirror of their mother's faces. If a child's friends pick on him and his teachers want to hold him back, it's very important that he feels accepted by his mother and father, that they at least look on him as a normal and healthy child."

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# What It's Like to Go Through Life as a Dwarf—

## *'The little people' are a medical mystery*

By Bruce Lewis

LOS ANGELES—(CNS)—A car full of "little people" traveling through a scorching Arizona desert pulled into a small gas station and they all piled out.

The station attendant gawked. Apparently, he had never seen dwarfs before.

"It sure is a hot day," the attendant said to the five little people.

"Yes, it sure is," replied one of the five. "Look how much I have dehydrated since we began our trip. I don't remember being this small when we left."

The attendant's mouth dropped open. He didn't know what to say.

It was a common reaction to people who medically are considered "dwarfs."

"It's the children you see on the street that react most to me," said Shirley Rosenberg, who is normal in every way except the size of her limbs.

"Some kids say. 'Look, mom, a midget lady.' You see people staring at you who are trying not to stare. A few people are obnoxious. And then there are always a few older persons who just smile.

"I smile back," said Mrs. Rosenberg, 43, the owner of Shirley's Gifts, in nearby North Hollywood. "parents will jerk their children by the arm when they say things to me. That's the worst thing they can do.

"I usually go over to the child and parent and start talking to them. I like them to know that I am like everyone else."

★ ★ ★

Mrs. Rosenberg says there is a general notion among the public that people who are dwarfs are mental midgets. She attributed the belief particularly to the role of little people in circuses.

And the mistaken assumption that lack of growth of some parts of a body means an accompanying lack of mental ability.

Mrs. Rosenberg is one of 70 kinds of dwarfs, she says. Her torso is of normal size. Her head is slightly large for her body. But her arms and legs are short.

When she was a child her mother told her she was missing a bone in her arm, to explain the shortness.

"I accepted that explanation and never thought much of it. My family understood my medical problem and taught me to cope with it," says Mrs. Rosenberg.

"When I had to reach for something, my father told me to get a stool and to get it," she said. "I always managed to get what I wanted."

★ ★ ★

In the small shop Mrs. Rosenberg owns there is a post office. With the help of an employe she operates the contract postal service and gift shop. She has owned the business for 20 years.

"I use a stool when I'm behind the counter in our little post office," she says. (The combination of the 6-inch box and her own 54 inches brings her to the needed height.)

"Being small presents some funny situations," she continued. "Often I'll be standing behind the desk in the post office section and a customer will look at me and tell me not to get up.

"Instead of embarrassing the person I wait a few minutes and then very casually walk out and ask them if I can give some help."

★ ★ ★

Most dwarfs with small limbs like Mrs. Rosenberg waddle when they walk. "I guess I'm fortunate in that respect," she says. "My father told me to walk normally and said I would be glad someday.

"I am glad! It makes me appear normal in every way except size.

"I guess I am more fortunate than some."

Finding clothes is no problem for the graying lady.

"I wear a size eight mini-skirt. I don't know what to do when the minis go out of style. I certainly couldn't wear theh maxis," she laughed.

Sometimes she has to order shoes from the East. But she occasionally finds shoes to fit her wide foot.

Her husband, Mickey, a 54-year-old Lockheed-California Co. worker, has trouble finding shoes. His 4-foot 8-inch frame (rather large for a dwarf) has the length of a boy, but the width of a man.

The Rosenbergs have been married for three years. They have no children and plan none.

She says, "It wouldn't be fair to have them at our age." There is the possibility the children would be born normal which presents a problem.

Can you imagine your 7-year-old daughter stooping to kiss you if you were a dwarf?

How do you explain that your parents are dwarfs?

★ ★ ★

Both of the Rosenbergs come from families of normal size as do most of their friends. In many cases there has been no family history of dwarfism.

Dwarfism, in its many different forms, is a medical mystery which doctors at Harbor General Hospital in suburban Torrance and the University of California at Los Angeles Medical Center are working on.

Little People of America, formed by Bill Barty, the 48-year-old show business veteran who had his own television show, was started to help little people. (Dwarfs refer to themselves as "little people.")

Barty, 3-9, says the organization is to help dwarfs find their way in the world. "It's not just a social club to arrange marriages, although that happens."

The group helps members to find employment and solve obvious problems, especially emotional adjustment.

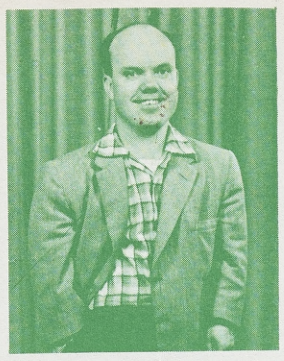
Mrs. Rosenberg says the group is especially good for scientists and doctors who are researching the causes of dwarfism.

## TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR LPA

1. Thou shalt cultivate a sense of humor and remember that much gloom has been created by those who take life too seriously.
2. Thou shalt not despise thy body, but develop it for strength and beauty. Eat wholesome food, exercise regularly, and take plenty of sleep.
3. Thou shalt have a dominating, worthwhile purpose in thy life, and allow nothing to turn thee from its fulfillment.
4. Thou shalt look upon thy job as the most important thing in the world, and strive ever to do it perfectly.
5. Thou shalt be thyself. Never seek to imitate another.
6. Thou shalt live within thy means; thine own desires, thy neighbors' appearances, and high-pressure salesmen regardless.
7. Thou shalt not worry, neither shalt thou be nervous, or fearful of the future for worry is the death of happiness.
8. Thou shalt do well to get acquainted with Nature, for many have thereby discovered beauty, melody, and fragrance in life.
9. Thou shalt take care never to seek for happiness, for it is one thing which seeking thou canst not find.
10. Thou shalt, above all, strive ever to contribute to the happiness in thine own mind.

Submitted by Miss Frances Conville

# Meet Paul Dolinajec Jr.



The happy date was March 8, 1923. I don't remember too much about this day, but they told me later that I was a wild one. I had red wavy hair and two legs that were bowed. The good Lord made my arms short too, to go with the normal body and the short, bowed legs. I don't remember anything between birth and the age of 5-1/2 years.

At this age my mother put me in a Children's Hospital to try and straighten my legs. She had five children before me, all normal size. So she really felt bad about me. She put me in the hospital to try and make things and life better for me. She sure gave up a lot. She and her husband paid all the bills by themselves. I do owe tham a lot.

My life in the hospital was rough for me. For one and a half years I was in and out of the hospital in a futile attempt to straighten my legs. I had to wear casts and braces during all this time. Afterwards they said I was a rough patient to all the hospital personnel. I remember one time I was so naughty that they put me in a room by myself. I couldn't have visitors or gifts. Boy was I naughty then. I guess after being in the hospital for awhile I settled down and behaved myself. Well, I finally left the hospital for good when I was about 6-1/2 years old.

When I got home, to my surprise, I had a baby sister. I was mad, because I was always the baby of the family. I told my mother to take her back. She just laughed and said she just couldn't do that. So I had to accept her.

Even though I was home from the hospital for good, I still had to wear the braces on my legs. After wearing them for a long time, I guess everyone accepted the idea that I should take them off for good. They were not doing me any good. Yes, I have a lot of respect for my parents for doing what they did for me. After all, they had six other children to support. They both had to work hard for their children. They really did, because this was during the depression, when no-one had much. My father was never on relief during the depression. I still have a lot of love and respect for my parents, who are still alive. I live with them now. I am the only one left at home.

I started school at St. James Catholic School after I was a little past seven years of age. In our 1st grade we had about a dozen kids. To my surprise, when it came time to pass to second grade, some of us boys didn't make it. We had to come back to first grade the following year. We just don't know to this date what happened.

After I finally got out of first grade, I made up my mind I was really going to try hard and pass every grade after that. I did with flying colors. After the first grade I finished the remaining seven grades with a B plus average. When I graduated from St. James, I was rewarded with a plaque from the town American Legion for being the outstanding boy in the eighth grade. That was very pleasing to me and my family.

While I was in the later grades in grammar school, I got myself a job at the local show house. I was a doorman in the front of the theater, opening car doors. I had a nice suit and I was paid $1.50 per week, plus 4 passes for my family. I liked the job very much, because I got to meet a lot of people. I also got to see all the movies free!

After grammar school days and my job at the theater, I started high school. There I thought I could get dates like all the other boys. I soon found out how cruel people can be when one is crippled and short. I never had a date in grammar school and I finally found out that high school was going to be the same and took it in stride. I went out as manager of the basketball, football and track teams and had a great time. I got to know everyone on all the teams and got to see all the games home and away. I did this for three years and I got my letter in my freshman year. This is unusual, because usually you don't get a letter as a freshman. I did because the letter club liked me and they voted me the letter.

I proved a point to myself when I went to High School. I found that there was more than one way to enjoy school, instead of just feeling sorry for ones self because he couldn't have dates with girls.

During the summer months I worked. I worked hard, spotting pins in a bowling alley, sweeping out the theater, and working on a truck farm for nine hours a day at $1.50 per day. I did not finish high school, because in 1941 World War II started. I quit school in November of 1942 and got a defense job in Akron, Ohio, working for Goodyear Aircraft, making airplanes for the U.S.A. and Great Britian. I stayed there for two and one-half years, until after the war. Here I finally learned how to take care of myslef and what life is all about. It was pretty rough, because I was only 19 at the time. I left home for the first time.

When I came home after the war I didn't work for about a year and a half. No work for a little guy like me, so I just laid around and spent all the money I did make during the war. And this wasn't much! After this I got a job at a cab stand as a radio dispatcher for the cabs. Then I finally got my present job, as an office clerk for Henry Valve Company. It is a plant which manufactures parts for air conditioning and refrigeration units. It is located in Melrose Park, Illinois. On Dec. 3 of this year, I will be there for 12 years. The longest job I ever had. It pays well, and I like it.

I joined the L.P.A. in 1957, when Billy Barty founded this wonderful organization. We started with 21 little people. Today we have hundreds of members. I have attended every national convention. Dan Turner, of North Carolina can also make that statement. We are the only two who have. I have met many little people since 1957. Believe me, they are all wonderful people to know. They are my people.

One thought for all the little people of the world. The world is wonderful. People can make it a little rough at times. One just has to fight for what he or she wants to make of themselves. I know I haven't made much of myself yet, but I will still fight on and try for other Little People to g[illegible]

**PHONE TOO HIGH FOR 3-FOOT-11 CLAUDIA BISHOP**
Eileen Shanahan, 4-foot-3, sympathizes with the problem.—(AP)

# 'Little Women' Think Big

GLOUCESTER CITY, N.J. (AP) — "It gives a second grader a great deal of pleasure to look down on me," says second-grade teacher Harriet Hoppert.

But Miss Hoppert, a pert 4-feet-2, adds, "I make the rules in my class and the children obey me as they would any other teacher.

"The first three or four weeks are rough, but as soon as I get them to know me as Miss Hoppert they forget me as the little lady." She teaches at the Browning School in Milwaukee.

Miss Hoppert is one of the 250 persons, all under 4-feet-11, attending the annual convention of Little People of America, Inc.

The group was started seven years ago to help short people solve mutual problems.

Their motto: "Think big."

## What causes dwarfism?

There are hundreds of causes of dwarfism—disease, improper nutrition, glandular disorders, hormone failure and inherited short stature just to name a few. All the causes of slow growth are too voluminous to deal with here but some of the more common types are listed below.

**CHROMOSOMAL DISORDERS**—The most common chromosomal disorder is called the Turner's syndrome which is found only in girls. While scientists have been able to identify the chromosome abnormality they have not yet discovered its cause nor its cure. Girls with Turner's syndrome rarely grow to 5′ tall and do not develop normal sexual characteristics.

**INHERITED SHORT STATURE**—Short parents tend to produce short children making genetic short stature the most prevalent of all types of dwarfism in the United States. Scientists are currently experimenting with human growth hormone (HGH) injections to help these children grow taller. Without help, some may grow no taller than 5′ but will be normal in all other development.

**DELAYED PUBERTY**—Normal adolescents experience a spurt of growth during puberty but some have a delayed puberty of 2 to 6 years. By the time they experience puberty their bone structure is too mature to react to a growth spurt and many of these children remain short. This delay is often inherited from one or both parents.

**BONE DISEASES**—A recent scientific paper listed over 100 distinct bone diseases associated with short stature. Their medical names are usually tongue-twisters like achondroplasia, fibrous dysplasia, hypophosphatasia, mucopolysaccharidoses, osteogenesis imperfecta, etc. They result in deformed, shortened or otherwise abnormally developed bones for thousands of children. One of the most common of these is achondroplasia which is characterized by a pronounced shortness of the arms and legs while the head is frequently large and the trunk normal size.

**PRIMARY GROWTH DISTURBANCES**—Children with primary growth disturbances seem to have body cells that do not respond to the usual growth promoting factors. They have small proportional bodies and some have associated malformations of the head, ears, skin, brain or one side of the body. One example is intrauterine growth retardation.

**SECONDARY GROWTH FAILURE**—Serious disease and strong drugs used in the treatment of disease may stunt growth. The disease or drugs may disturb bodily functions and produce an imbalance severe enough to slow down growth. Loss of appetite, damage to vital organs, vitamin and mineral imbalance, etc., can all result in poor growth and can all be caused by disease or drugs.

**HORMONE FAILURE**—Growth is controlled by hormones produced by the pituitary gland. An organ about the size of a pea, the pituitary must produce enough human growth hormone (HGH) to affect normal growth. When it does not, hypopituitary dwarfism occurs. An adult hypopituitary dwarf may look like a child of 10 and usually has arrested sexual development. However, intellectual development, as in the case of most types of dwarfism, will be normal.

**NUTRITIONAL SHORT STATURE**—Chronic malnutrition will prevent children from reaching their full genetic growth potential. Most common among these are children with a protein deficiency. If a child remains protein starved until the age of 5, the growth damage will be permanent.

## Can dwarfism be cured?

Until recently little attention has been paid to the causes and cures of dwarfism. Research now is being conducted in all types of growth problems. With an estimated 500,000 children in the United States suffering from growth problems, this research is extremely important and long overdue.

One of the first breakthroughs in growth research was the discovery that human growth hormone could be extracted from the pituitary gland and injected into hypopituitary dwarfs to induce growth. Since 1963, HGH has been used in tightly controlled research projects to stimulate growth in over 500 dwarfed children. HGH promises to be a solution to hypopituitary dwarfism and a possible help to some other causes of dwarfism. Unfortunately, the supply of HGH depends directly on the donations of human pituitary glands—animal glands are not useable. Each child on the program needs from 50 to 200 pituitaries per year and the annual pituitary donations are only enough to accommodate a very limited number of children. Most of the children suffering from hypopituitary dwarfism cannot receive HGH treatments because there simply aren't enough pituitary gland donations to cover the need.

Synthesized hormone may be the next step in solving this problem. In early 1971, HGH was synthesized for the first time. It will take many more years to discover how to produce the synthesized hormone in quantities large enough to help the many dwarfed children who need it. And for some, it will be too late. Once a child's growth years end (usually between 17 and 21) HGH can no longer stimulate further growth.

## Is dwarfism really a handicap?

To some, it isn't. The pygmies of central Africa, the Negritos of the Philippines and New Guinea and the natives of the Andaman Islands in the Indian Ocean have been dwarfs for centuries. But in the American culture where the average male height is 5′ 10″ dwarfism presents a very real problem.

First, there is the physical problem of being too small to reach ordinary things like pay telephones, drinking fountains, mail boxes, wash bowls, door handles, elevator buttons and so much more. Then there is the problem of being too small to participate in normal activities like sports, dancing, bicycling, driving, etc. Then there is the exceptional difficulty in shopping, finding a job, leading a "normal" life in a world too large for some little people to handle.

Most tragically, there is a psychological problem that all dwarfs must learn to handle. The jeers of classmates, the stares from adults, the jokes, the teasing, the loneliness of being "different" all present serious problems to dwarfs. Many overcome them with the support of well-informed, loving parents and friends. Others are not so fortunate and add life-long psychological problems to their already handicapped bodies.

## Who can help a dwarf?

Everyone of us can help overcome the problems of dwarfism by:

**1.** Providing friendship and understanding to dwarfed children and adults. Treat them as individuals who want to be judged on their abilities and achievements, not on their stature.

**2.** Providing future dwarfed children with a chance for normal growth by willing your pituitary gland to the National Pituitary Agency for use in medical research and HGH treatment programs. Contact the Human Growth Foundation (address below) for complete details.

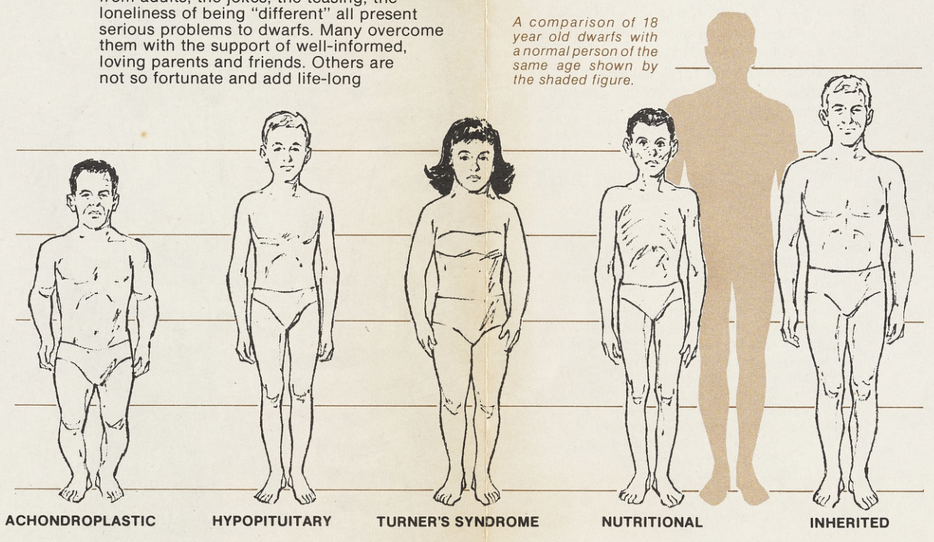
**3.** Supporting growth research with your contribution to the Human Growth Foundation. All donations are tax deductible.

**4.** Checking your own child's growth and reporting any abnormality to your family physician.

**5.** Informing your friends and neighbors about the problems of dwarfism and the needs to solve these problems.

**6.** Helping the parents of a dwarfed child with understanding, friendship and by helping them contact their nearest Human Growth chapter.

*A comparison of 18 year old dwarfs with a normal person of the same age shown by the shaded figure.*




# The Legs Were the Giveaway

THE ★ PAGE 5
Thursday, October 7, 1965
SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

Circus barker Horace Mosby did his best to turn himself into a miniature male mannequin when police burst into a Marina dress shop on a burglary call early yesterday.

And the diminitive Mosby—four feet four inches tall—nearly succeeded.

His acting was superb, police conceded, but he really never stood much of a chance—he was the only male mannequin in the shop.

"I saw the legs of what looked like a male mannequin hidden between two dresses," said officer Karl Richmond, "so I went over and lifted the dresses.

"And there he was."

Arrested with Mosby, 43, of 24 Lucky avenue, were Mariva Green, 25, of 23079 Eddy street, Hayward, and Fay Roy Wheeler, a 29-year-old musician of 215 Bridgeview drive.

Outside the shop at 2154 Chestnut street, Richmond and officer Carl Klotz found $5000 worth of women's clothing, including 88 dresses, 45 skirts, 22 suits, one coat, and 64 slacks, all in small sizes, in an auto.

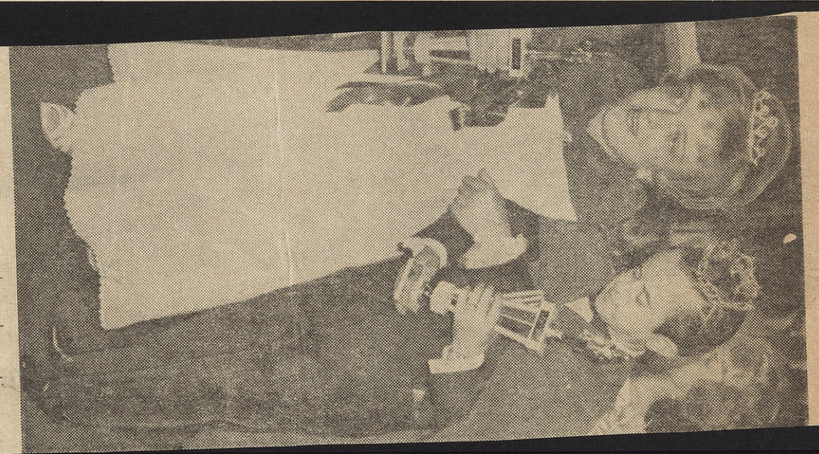
Mosby, Wheeler and Miss Green were then taken to City Prison on charges of suspicion of burglary.

The two patrolmen said they discoverd the burglary attempt at 4 a.m., when they spotted a man standing in the doorway of the shop with his arms full of clothing.

# A Growing Man

Because Dick Hildebrand is 20 years old but only 49 inches high, he sits in a specially made desk at Landmark High School, Manitoba, Canada. Hildebrand's pituitary gland collapsed when he was seven and he stopped growing. But now that he is taking special hormone injections from the Mayo Clinic, he has grown 2½ inches in six months.—(AP)

# Small Timers

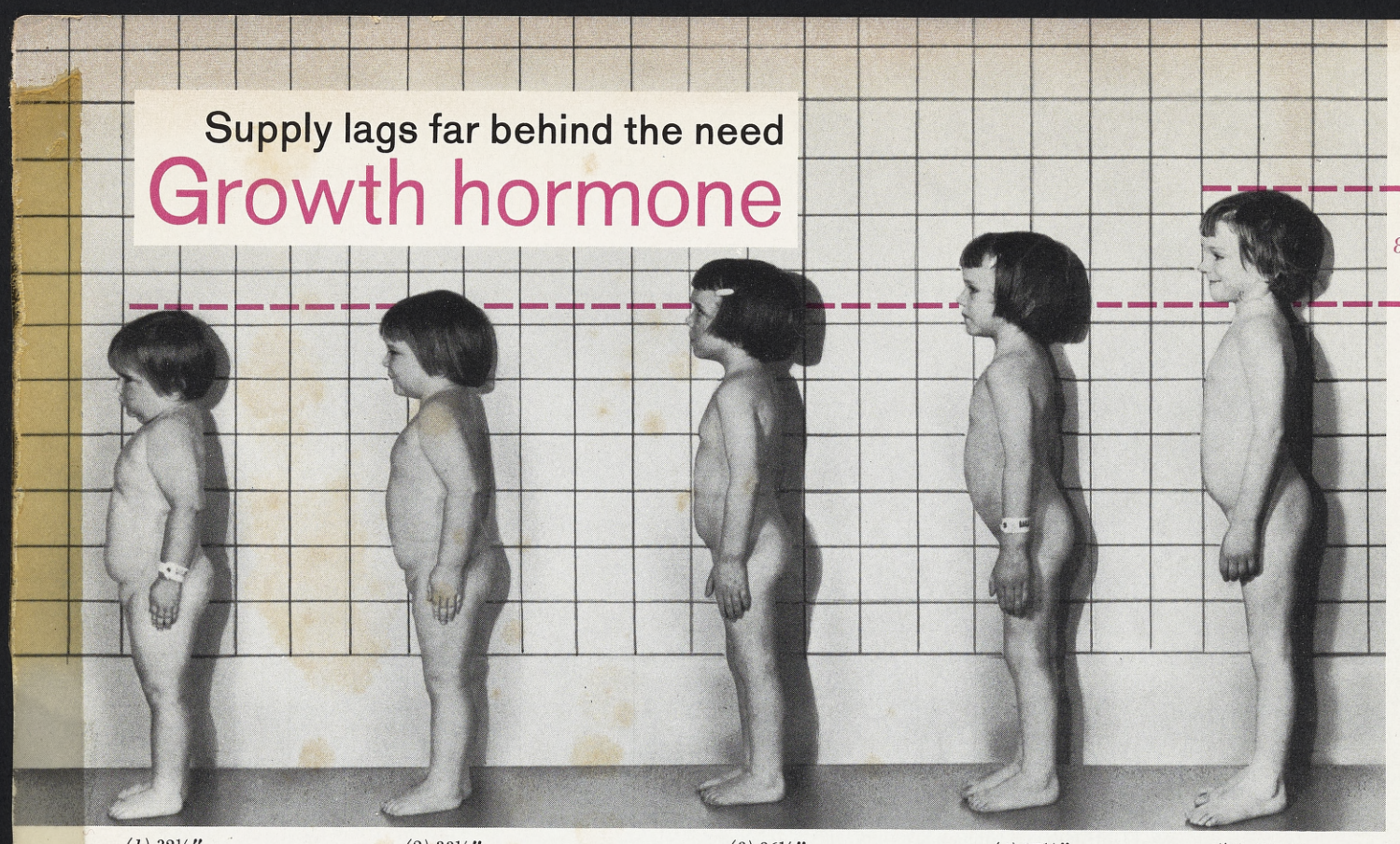


The participants may have been tiny, but there was nothing small about the ceremony in which Frieda Groeneveld, 26, and Felix Silla, 30, were crowned King and Queen of the Little People of America at the midgets' annual convention in Los Angeles. Frieda is 3 feet, 11 inches; Felix, 3-10.

UPI Photo

## Supply lags far behind the need

# Growth hormone




*(1) 32½″* *(2) 33½″* *(3) 36¼″* *(4) 37½″* *(5) 41¼″*

*Hypopituitary dwarf treated with growth hormone. (1) Chronological age 6 2/12, bone age 3. (2) Age 6 1/12, one month after treatment with growth hormone was begun, 6 mg. per week. (3) Age 6 9/12. (4) Age 7. (5) Age 7 8/12, bone age 5, after 18 months of treatment. With continued treatment, the child's bone age and height age can be expected to catch up with her chronological age. Her growth rate up to age 6 is shown in the chart on the next page.*

—Courtesy of R. M. Blizzard, Johns Hopkins Hospital.

HYPOPITUITARY DWARFS whose linear growth shoots up spectacularly under treatment have dramatized the need for the rare and precious human growth hormone.

If the pituitary glands could be saved from three quarters of the Americans who die every year, we would have about enough growth hormone to meet the demand. Only 4 mg. can be extracted from a single gland, and this is less than the average weekly dose for a single case of hypopituitarism. There are some thousands of hypopituitary dwarfs in the country and many more dwarfs of other types, some of whom may respond to large doses of hormone. In addition to the more obvious indications there are a number of other conditions in which the metabolic action could be beneficial. Finally, the needs of chemical and pharmacologic research are considerable.

The action of growth hormone is by no means confined to growth, as it is intimately concerned with carbohydrate, protein and fat metabolism, in addition to its interaction with other hormones. Unfortunately, the action is species-specific. Man responds to ACTH from various animal sources but not to growth hormone from any animal except primates. But monkey pituitaries are small and in short supply, while the hormone extracted from the large and plentiful bovine pituitary is useless to man.

### *Not all dwarfs can grow*

The primary indication for growth hormone is hypopituitary dwarfism. In the experience of Johns Hopkins endocrinologists (R. M. Blizzard and others) this accounts for about 1 out of 10 cases of abnormally short stature. About half of these have an associated ACTH deficiency, which may not be apparent clinically since electrolytes are usually within normal limits. The majority are deficient in gonadotropin and are sexually infantile, even though 17-ketosteroid excretion may occasionally be normal. Some have low levels of thyrotropic hormone, but despite this abnormality they are as a rule clinically euthyroid. Most of them have a normal blood sugar level but a few are pathologically hypoglycemic. Some are insulin-sensitive, some not; a considerable number react with hypoglycemia following a glucose tolerance test, and others have decreased glu-

The SHORTAGE OF GROWTH HORMONE would be to some extent relieved if physicians were to stipulate that the pituitary be removed at every autopsy, and sent to the National Pituitary Agency, 1900 McElderry Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21205. The gland must be preserved in a deep freeze or in acetone. The Agency supplies instructions for dissection and containers for shipping, and defrays the basic cost. Also available are cards of bequest for prospective donors to sign.

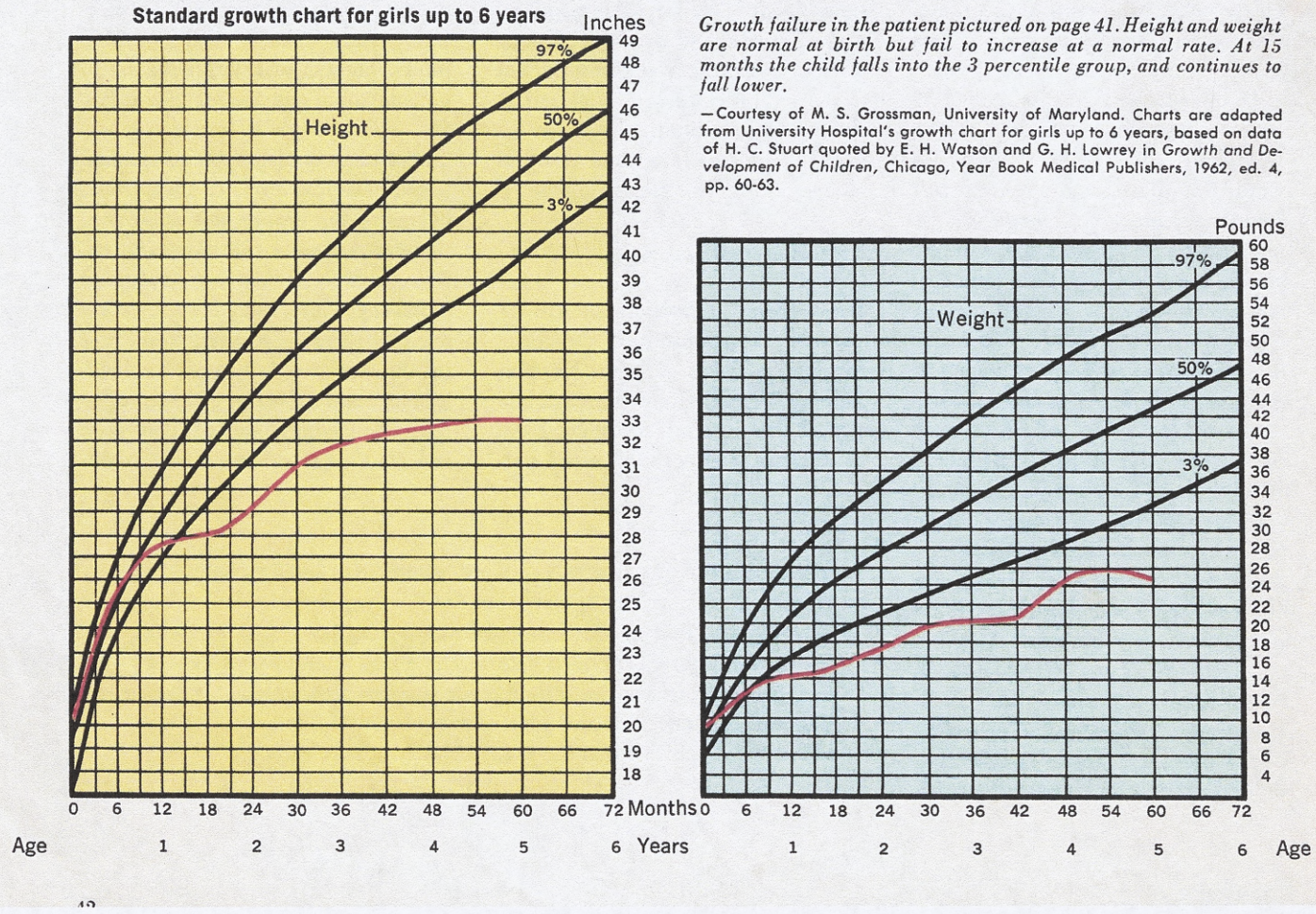
cose tolerance. The sulfation factor, which presides over the laying down of sulfur in cartilage, and which correlates with growth hormone levels, is nearly always low in growth hormone deficiency.

The extraordinary thing about the average child with deficiency of tropic pituitary hormones is that he can strike a physiologic and metabolic balance that appears relatively normal—except for stunted growth. A known cause of growth hormone deficiency is hypopituitarism due to brain lesions but in most cases the cause is unknown. It seldom appears to be a familial trait.

When dwarfism results from growth hormone deficiency, it nearly always responds promptly to specific replacement therapy. Linear growth accelerates rapidly at first, frequently with an increment of more than 5 cm. in 3 months, after which it tends to level off to a normal rate of 5 to 8 cm. per year, but it has been known to continue almost unabated for several years. Adults whose epiphyses have not fused are also responsive, but less so than children. It is thought that the comparatively rare failures may be due to antibody formation. Usual dosage is 3 to 6 mg. per week, given in two or three doses, although a single weekly dose may also promote growth; but if hypoglycemia is a factor, dosage must be divided, as the effect on blood sugar is transitory. If a patient fails to grow from 0.5 to 1 cm. in the first 6 weeks of treatment it could be because the hormone preparation is inactive, the patient is refractory to exogenous hormone, or the dwarfism is due to other factors.

The little girl shown in the serial photographs on the previous page illustrates the manifestations of hypopituitarism and the response to hormone treatment. She appeared normal at birth, measuring 20½ inches and weighing 8 pounds, 9 ounces. In her first year she grew 7 inches and gained a little over 6 pounds, which was only slightly subnormal. At 21 months she was brought to the University of Maryland for study and treatment because of growth failure and because convulsions were occurring about once a month on waking. Her blood sugar was only 22 mg. per 100 ml., and her protein-bound iodine was also low. As anticonvulsants failed to control the seizures, she was put on hydrocortisone, which raised the blood sugar level and diminished the number of seizures. This medication was continued despite the fact that it curtailed growth even further and induced signs of hypothyroidism. Between ages 2 and 5 she grew less than 5 inches, and was then nearly a foot shorter than she should have been.

Her IQ ranged between 70 and 80 on the Stanford-Binet scale. The relatively low score was attributed to emotional factors rather than mental retardation. Like most patients with growth hormone deficiency she was shy and had more of a problem with social adaptation than with mentation. This is in contrast to achondroplastic dwarfs, who often tend to be aggressive rather than self-conscious.




*Growth failure in the patient pictured on page 41. Height and weight are normal at birth but fail to increase at a normal rate. At 15 months the child falls into the 3 percentile group, and continues to fall lower.*

—Courtesy of M. S. Grossman, University of Maryland. Charts are adapted from University Hospital's growth chart for girls up to 6 years, based on data of H. C. Stuart quoted by E. H. Watson and G. H. Lowrey in *Growth and Development of Children*, Chicago, Year Book Medical Publishers, 1962, ed. 4, pp. 60-63.

When growth hormone became available, the patient was a little over 6 years old and her height age was less than 2. On dosage of 6 mg. per week she grew 3 inches in 6 months, and she has grown a total of nearly 9 inches in 18 months of treatment to date, making up for a significant share of the deficit in both height age and bone age.

The patient's growth chart (reproduced at left) is particularly instructive. Although it is commonly thought that pituitary dwarfs grow normally in the first two years of life, the fact is that they seldom do. When height is plotted on a percentile graph it becomes apparent that the curve crosses the percentile lines. This patient's height was in the upper range at birth but it crossed the 75 percentile line at 3 months, the 25 at 9 months and the 3 percentile line in less than a year, thereafter falling far below the normal range. P. H. Henneman (New Jersey College of Medicine) points out that the height age is far less significant than the rate of growth. Whenever there is the slightest suspicion of dwarfism, the growth curve should be plotted.

*The stage of epiphyseal maturation, as seen by x-ray, distinguishes between familial ("normal") short stature and dwarfism due to hormone deficiency (growth hormone, thyroid or gonadal). Norms are given by W. W. Greulich and S. I. Pyle,* Radiographic Atlas of Skeletal Development of the Hands and Wrists, *Stanford University Press, 1959, ed. 2. (left) Normal boy of 14. (right) Hypopituitary boy of 14 with a bone age of 10.*—Courtesy of P. H. Henneman.

If this confirms the suspicion, and x-ray shows retarded bone age (see illustration), the patient should be referred to an endocrinologist for study. The family physician may be making a serious mistake if instead he tells the parents that the child "will probably grow out of it."

Prescribing growth hormone in cases of pituitary myxedema may be a needless waste, as they may respond adequately to thyroid. In growth hormone deficiency, however, administration of thyroid may have an initial potentiating effect, but if given in excess it has the disadvantage of hastening bone maturation prematurely, curtailing the growth that might otherwise have been achieved. Premature administration of sex hormones or chorionic gonadotropin is inadvisable for the same reason, but they are nearly always indicated eventually for psychological as well as physical needs, since sex hormone deficiency is serious in most cases. When growth hormone treatment is begun late it may have to be continued through the years of adolescence, and when induction of physical sexual maturity must accordingly be delayed until adulthood there is an emotional block to normal sexual behavior, primarily due to psychic trauma in adolescence. In other words, the pituitary dwarf who is not treated in childhood is often fated to be stunted either physically or sexually. This emphasizes the importance of early diagnosis.

Response in other types of dwarfism is uncertain. Slightly encouraging results have been reported in genetic short stature and gonadal agenesis, but not in the dwarfism of osteochondrodystrophy or of malnutrition. There is no certainty that the eventual height attained in nonpituitary dwarfs taking the hormone is greater than it would have been without treatment. Definite conclusions will have to await trials of large doses, and this is out of the question as long as the supply remains limited.

Thanks to a recently elaborated test, it is possible to pinpoint growth hormone deficiency. After induction of hypoglycemia with insulin, serum is withdrawn and incubated with antibody (obtained by injecting human growth hormone into rabbits) plus growth hormone tagged with $I^{131}$. Since the two sources of hormone compete for the antibody, a relatively large amount of radioactive hormone will combine with it if the serum level is low. The free hormone is separated from the antibody-bound by paper chromatography.

Growth hormone accounts for some 4 percent of the dry weight of the pituitary and nearly 25 percent of a powdered acetone extract. It is a relatively stable polypeptide but it has a half-life of only 30 minutes in the blood, despite which it is effective if given only three times a week, or even once a week. The circulating hormone may differ in some way from its pristine form. It has been suggested that it is preserved in another peptide, such as the sulfation factor, but it seems more probable that it is loosely bound in the tissues. Such binding could explain why it has a diminishing effect in some patients and apparently no effect in others, and at the same time is conserved in the body in a potentially active form. This is all pure speculation.

In a comparable way we develop antibodies to insulin without serious or uniform loss of effect. One explanation of antibody formation is that extrinsic hormone is so altered in the extraction process that the body recognizes it as a foreign protein.

When the action begins to subside, dosage can be slightly increased. Some clinicians have recommended administration in successive courses of 2 to 4 weeks, with intervals of 1 to 2 weeks during which the antibody, if present, may decrease.

Growth hormone seems to be active during fetal life, as is evidenced by the fact that its level is higher in the umbilical artery than in the vein or in maternal venous blood. The level continues high in early infancy but falls off in the first few months of life. The basal level is about the same

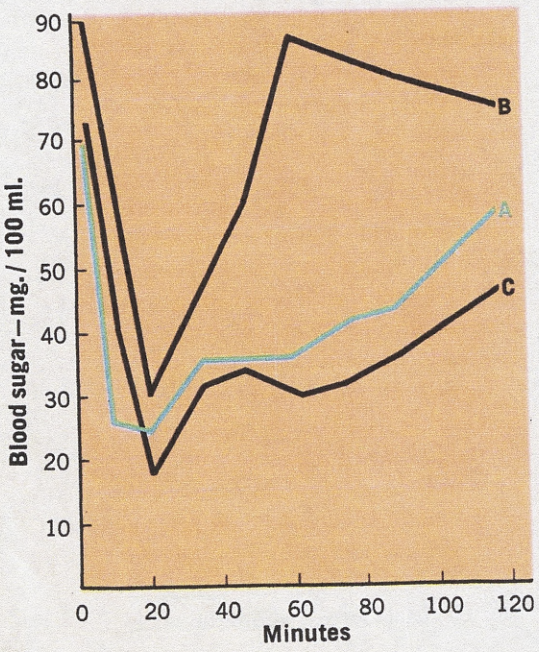
in men and women; physical activity and estrogen increase secretion. The hypothalamus seems to play an important part, since hypothalamic extracts are reported to increase circulating growth hormone levels from four to six times in the rat.

### *A multiplicity of metabolic effects*

Growth hormone mobilizes fat, inhibits its formation and promotes its catabolism, which can contribute to growth. This characteristic is shared by other pituitary hormones; it has been suggested on the basis of rat studies that human growth might conceivably proceed for some time without growth hormone, provided there were stores of fat to draw upon. Fatty acids are oxidized in preference to glucose, resulting in ketoacidosis of varying degree and sometimes temporarily lowering glucose tolerance. Growth hormone and insulin are mutually antagonistic, which means that ketotic diabetics with abundant growth hormone must take unusually large doses of insulin. The possibility is not excluded that a high growth hormone level could be a result as well as a cause of ketosis.

*Intravenous insulin tolerance during treatment with growth hormone.* A—*Day 1, after injection of 4 mg. of growth hormone.* B—*During treatment.* C—*Day 60, after discontinuing treatment. Curve* B, *at the height of growth hormone effect, resembles that of a diabetic.*

—Courtesy of R. M. Blizzard, Johns Hopkins Hospital.




Any type of hypoglycemia elicits growth hormone secretion and is effectively combated by it. Administration of insulin raises the serum level (provided the pituitary is functioning normally) because it lowers blood sugar. Conversely, administration of glucose inhibits growth hormone secretion except in acromegaly, where the levels are persistently high, and where there is some tendency to glycosuria and even frank diabetes.

The outstanding role of growth hormone, and the reason for its effectiveness in proliferation and repair of tissue, is in the metabolism of protein and minerals. It inhibits urea formation, conserves nitrogen and spares protein. Growth hormone shares with insulin the function of increasing the uptake of amino acids, but not exactly the same ones. Both hormones act on glycine, serine, threonine and proline; insulin acts on methionine, and growth hormone on alanine, histidine, tryptophan, glutamine, and asparagine. Hydroxyproline, formed from proline, is the only amino acid whose excretion is increased by growth hormone, and this phenomenon is associated with increased growth. The other amino acids are largely incorporated into tissues, promoting growth or repair.

Growth hormone raises serum levels of phosphorus, and sometimes of other metabolites. Urinary excretion of calcium usually increases, independently of the serum level, probably because of a rising concentration of citrate in the blood, but there is apparently no danger of precipitating calcium deficiency.

### *Many potential uses*

Growth hormone could presumably have a number of indications aside from linear growth, but they cannot be recommended or confirmed until the supply is more abundant.

One of the most consistent effects is to raise the blood sugar level. This can be put to good use not only in deficiency of the hormone but in hypoglycemia caused by hyperinsulinism, tumors or other conditions. In pancreatic tumor it relieves hypoglycemia in amounts that would have imperceptible effects in normals, and there is no danger that it will stimulate growth of the tumor.

The generalized metabolic action of growth hormone might conceivably be valuable in congenital heart disease and to improve liver and kidney function in disease of these organs. A widespread use could be in the treatment of burns and fractures, which appear to heal more rapidly under its influence, thanks to an increased supply of protein. Were it not so scarce, it would perhaps be used in obesity because it mobilizes fat and utilizes fatty acids for caloric needs. Release of intrinsic growth hormone in response to insulin or fasting is abnormally low in the obese. This might be a cause or a consequence of obesity, but in either case extrinsic growth hormone might well have a beneficial effect.

Since treatment of deficiency consumes, on the average, the yield of about 100 pituitaries per year, it is understandable that the shortage is acute. Until the hormone can be synthesized, there will be hardly enough of it for research, not to mention treatment of the many conditions in which it might be indicated. Physicians can help by getting consent for autopsy, including the brain, whenever possible. Undertakers do not usually complain unduly of the disfigurement, as the incision is made from the rear. If the body has been embalmed, the yield is lower, but some hormone can still be retrieved. Most medical examiners and large hospitals are glad to cooperate. The heirs must be in agreement, as they are the legal proprietors of the corpse. The public-spirited citizens who leave their temporal bones to the Deafness Research Institute or their eyes to an eye bank, could easily be persuaded to leave their pituitaries to the National Pituitary Agency. END



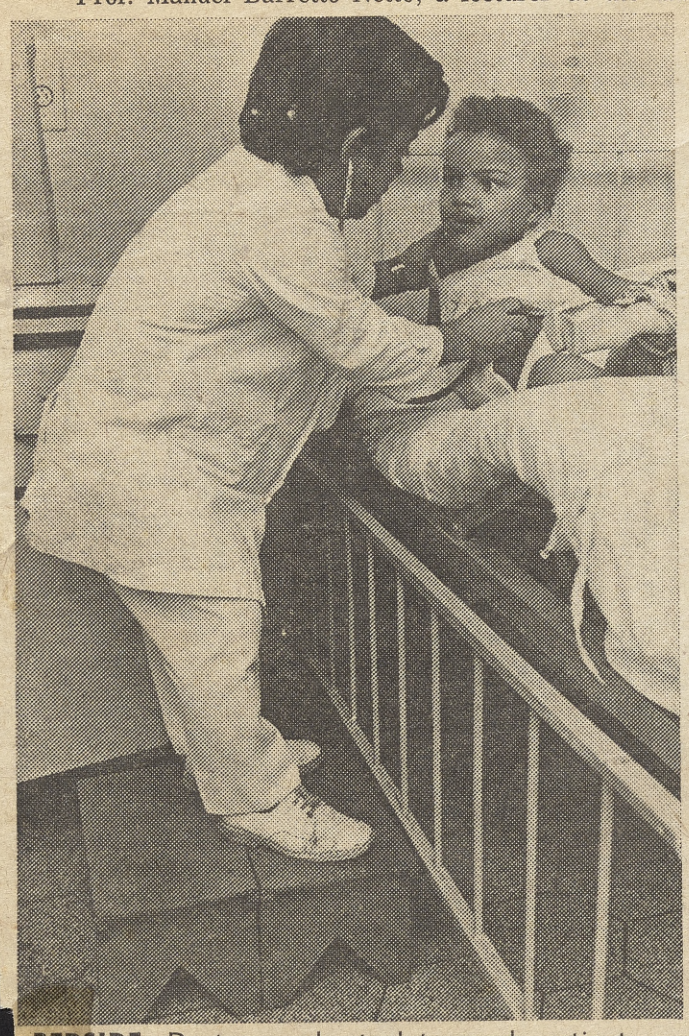
Discovery of the molecular structure of human growth hormone, a complex sequence of 188 amino acids, was announced recently by C. H. Li and co-workers (University of California, Berkeley). The discovery gives some hope of eventual synthesis of the hormone (J. Amer. Chem. Soc. May 5, 1966).

# WORLD'S SMALLEST DOCTOR?

## He's 36" Tall, Weighs 65 Lbs. — And His Young Patients Love Him: They Think He's 'One of Us'

Dr. Luis Carlos Trindade, 27, stopped growing when he was four years old and, at 36 inches, is believed to be the shortest doctor in the world. He weighs only 65 lbs. and works with children in the pediatric department of the Santa Maria University Medical Center in Brazil.

Prof. Manuel Barretto Netto, a lecturer at the university medical school, told The ENQUIRER: "The children love and trust him — they regard him as one of themselves."



**BEDSIDE:** Doctor needs stool to reach patient.

Said Dr. Trindade: "I first became interested in medicine as a career when my parents saw that I was not growing and took me to see various doctors. They were all so kind that I thought that was what I would do one day — become a doctor.

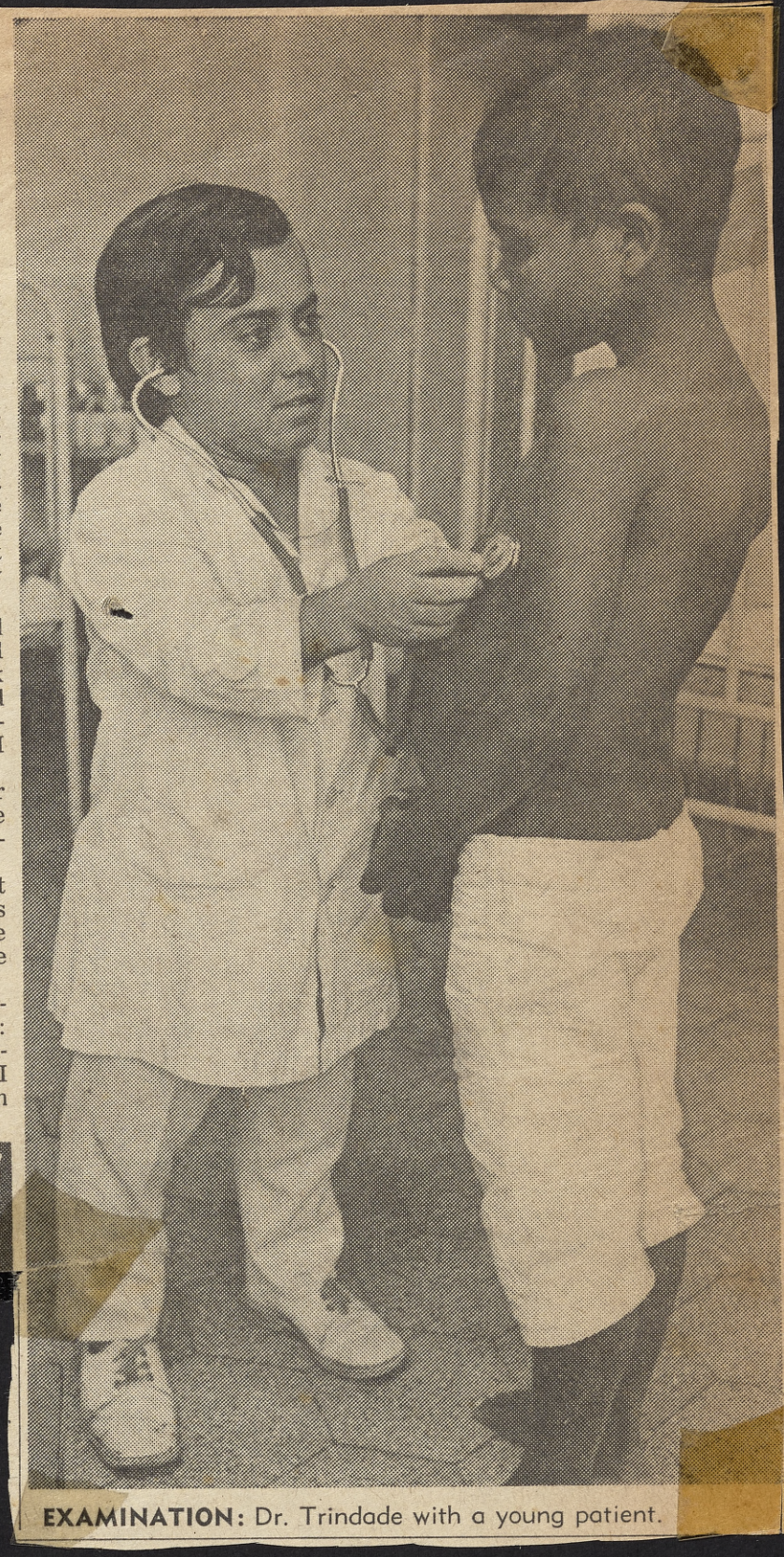
"The only time I noticed my size in medical school was when I had to look through a microscope — I'd have to pull a stool alongside the table because I couldn't reach.

"Neither my professor nor classmates ever treated me as if I were different. I appreciate that."

Dr. Trindade added that there were no midgets in his family. "My parents are both normal size and so are my three sisters."

One of his patients, 9-year-old Fausto Ferreira, said: "I'd rather go to Dr. Trindade than anyone else. I never feel nervous with him."

**THE BEST PICTURES ARE ALWAYS IN THE ENQUIRER**



**EXAMINATION:** Dr. Trindade with a young patient.

## NEWS FROM DISTRICT 12

Well, as you can see from the picture, Billy's convention assistant, Anna Dixon, is still wearing her ice pack on her head. So I don't think I have to tell you what Anna and Billy and all the members of the Los Angeles and Bay Area Chapters have been doing with their spare time these past few months. From all the information I have been receiving, it really looks like this coming convention will be a WHIZ-BANG. So let's all make a real effort to go and show District 12 that we appreciate all their hard work. Now to the News. In the San Francisco Area they elected Nino Carlino as their new Chapter Chairman.

## Andre Boursee Earns Eagle Scout

The Little People of America can be proud of Andre Boursee. Andre is being congratulated by his mother and two brothers, Pierre and Art. Andre first joined the organization at the age of 9. Eight years later he has earned the highest award of the Boy Scouts of America. Andre received the Eagle Scout merit several weeks ago and the people of District 12 are proud of him. A senior at Polytechnic High in Van Nuys, Calif., he plans to attend Los Angeles Valley College. His major is Business Administration and is interested in Science. Andre likes to Golf, play baseball, and do woodwork. The LPA are proud of him, and at 17, has made a man out of himself.

VOLUME 4 NO. 8 OCTOBER 1965

*68 ATTEND DISTRICT 12 CONVENTION*

McKUSICK & FRIENDS AT BALTIMORE PARTY
*Definition comes before treatment.*

## GENETICS

### The Little People

Assembling more than 250 dwarfs and midgets for a lawn party and a whirl of dances may seem like a Barnum and Bailey act, but last week that many members of an organization called the Little People of America convened in Baltimore for medically scientific as well as social reasons. The hosts were Dr. Victor A. McKusick and 15 colleagues at the Moore Clinic of Johns Hopkins Hospital, the nation's leading investigators into the causes of dwarfism and possible remedies for it. Their invited guests were essential past and future participants in Moore Clinic research.

The Little People's organization was founded in 1957 by Billy Barty, one of the few who conform to the popular misconception that most midgets are in show business. Barty is, and has done well.* Now 43, Barty stands 3 ft. 9 in. He arrived with Wife Shirley, 4 ft. 3 in., and their daughter Lori, who at age five measures 3 ft. 1 in. Anthropometrists say Lori probably will never top 4 ft. 7 in., so the Little People classify her as "Little Little."

**Medically Oriented.** McKusick's team had already examined most of the association members, piecing together family trees, taking blood and cell specimens to study chromosomes and hormones and X-raying joints to look at cartilage-bone defects. A great deal of work remains to be done, so 18 Little People arrived days ahead of time. They were admitted to the hospital for detailed tests by orthopedists, ophthalmologists, and otolaryngologists. Especially concerned were the gynecologists, for dwarf women's babies usually have to be delivered by caesarean section. Of the dozen conventions the Little People have had, this was by far the most medically oriented. To handle all the examinations, a temporary hospital room was set up in the Lord Baltimore Hotel, convention headquarters.

All this work is necessary, says McKusick, because to treat or prevent dwarfism it first must be clearly defined. That is not as easy as it sounds. Beyond the rough classification of midgets as people of short but otherwise normal body build, and dwarfs as having some other physical abnormality in addition to short stature, McKusick lists 20 different conditions as causes of subnormal growth. Among the conventioneers, he found at least one representative of almost all the types, and some who appeared to fit no known category, suggesting that the classification table will now have to be extended.

"We have," says McKusick, "been paying special attention to the children, whose growth is not complete, whose epiphyses [the growing ends of long bones] haven't yet closed. We have more than 30 of them here." The hope is that some of these children can be helped, by injections of human growth hormone, to grow to 5 ft. or more, in which case they would no longer qualify as Little People.

**Concession to Bigness.** The likeliest candidates for this help are children with otherwise normal physiques whose pituitary glands do not produce enough of the hormone. Even for them the supply problem is forbidding. Growth hormone from animals is useless for man unless it is specially processed, and little of this is now produced. Human growth hormone must be extracted, in minute quantities, from the pituitaries of cadavers. Each year the National Pituitary Agency in Baltimore gets about 75,000 of these glands, mostly from pathologists exploring the skull in postmortem examinations. The agency supplies the Hopkins with extracts from the glands. It takes the hormone from 150 or more glands to treat one child for a year. For victims of the commonest type of dwarfism, achondroplasia, marked by short limbs, large heads and "scooped out" noses, no hormonal or other treatment is effective.

Regardless of whether they can be helped to grow, most of the Little People are determined to show that they can compete on an equal basis with big people in today's world and do not have to fall back upon the circus for a livelihood. Robert Spector, last week's convention chairman, is a Ph.D. working on chemistry patents for Du Pont. Lee Kitchens, an electronics engineer for Texas Instruments and the outgoing Little People's president, literally soared into town, flying his own plane from Richardson, Texas. Since he stands only 4 ft. 1 in., the rudder pedals on his Piper Tri-Pacer have been built up about nine inches to meet his feet.

* As has Michael Dunn (*Ballad of the Sad Café, Ship of Fools*), who missed the Baltimore meeting. He was in Europe making a movie.

Bee Photo

STAND-IN—Andre Boursse, 18, of Sun Valley practices the balance he acquired as one of his college's outstanding gymnasts before mascot-sized Tammy Kipp and her mother, Mrs. Barbara Kipp of Claremont. Tammy may never do acrobatics, but she does roller skate.

**Oblivious to giant world** of people and skyscrapers towering over him, three feet tall Kenneth Brown strolls through downtown Philadelphia attracting scarcely little more attention than any other rush hour shopper. Not a sufferer of claustrophobia, neat-dressing ex-dancer uses small stature to maneuver effortlessly through crowds.

# Special Car Enables 'Little People' To Drive Safely

**How do midgets and dwarfs get to work?**

**With great difficulty or great expense.**

**They can't drive conventional cars.**

**They're too small to climb in and out of buses. Taking the subway during rush hour is like going to the front.**

**For America's 35,000 "little people" it's a choice of living on welfare, taking expensive cabs or taking a chance.**

Transportation experts don't give their plight much consideration.

Auto makers have done nothing to accommodate their needs. Regular size people haven't given the problem a thought.

Yet for midgets and dwarfs, like anyone else, getting from one place to another is absolutely essential.

What has been needed for too long is a car with a special raised seat; gas, brake and headlight controls that can be worked by hand; dashboard dials that can be reached by the shortest of arms; and a special rear-view mirror that lets even the littlest person see behind.

Detroit can't make that car. Every midget and every dwarf has different dimensions and different needs.

But the National Institute for Rehabilitation Engineering in Pompton Lakes, N.J. claims it can.

For years, its researchers have been developing aids for the immobilized and the deaf, the blind and the mute.

Now they've developed special equipment that can be installed in any car so that "little people" can drive.

**"The special equipment has to be fitted for each individual,"** Dr. Donald Selwyn, the institute's director, explained to MIDNIGHT.

**"The height of the person's head and the length of the arms vary greatly from one midget to another and one car to another. So even the seat has to be carefully designed.**

**"If you raise the person too much, then the legs won't be able to touch. You have to raise the buttocks and the spine higher — much more than the thighs."**

**SPECIALLY MODIFIED** car means dwarfs and midgets can now learn to drive for the first time.

As for the hand controls, they're similar to the ones used by paraplegic drivers. Only these attachments extend even closer to the driver's body.

**"Some dwarfs have very short arms,"** Dr. Selwyn explained.

**"So the hand controls have to be brought out above the plane of the steering wheel in a U-shape.**

**"The dashboard controls are also moved closer so they can be operated while the person is driving and strapped into the seat.**

**"For the rear-view mirrors, there's different methods we use, depending on the person's eyesight.**

**"We test his vision, then either use a curved mirror or a long mirror with angled glass."**

Since most midgets and dwarfs have never driven before, and since most driving instructors are reluctant to give lessons in cars without dual controls, the National Institute for Rehabilitation Engineering gives its own lessons.

**"We teach them the controls and give them enough driver training on the highway so that they can attend a regular driving school,"** Dr. Selwyn explained.

The cost for the custom-installed controls and lessons is $300.

A small price for a safe way to work and a more normal life.

# Dwarves gather in Portland to discuss common problems

PORTLAND (AP) — The Little People of America are holding their 12th annual convention in Portland.

The little people are dwarves who meet to socialize and to work out common problems.

Charles Bedow, 36, and 4-foot-6, is president of LPA. He is a sales service supervisor for an insurance company in Minnesota and says job discrimination is a major problem.

"We're still trying to convince employers that just because we're short in stature, we're not short in intelligence."

LPA members come from almost every occupational field including accountants, lawyers, television repairmen, secretaries, barbers, bankers and plumbers.

"We haven't found a little doctor yet," says Bedow. "But we're still looking."

Another problem is clothes. Some have theirs tailor made, others shop in children's departments. "The miniskirt boom was a big help for our women," said Bedow.

Dwarves live and work in an average-size world. "We don't live in doll houses or have a house full of baby furniture," said George "Joe" Alexander, Goldendale, Wash., convention chairman.

The worst handicap to dwarves is social — realizing they look different because they're shorter.

"You don't know what it's like," says Mrs. Sally Bedow, "to always go to school dances and sit on the side because your eyes would meet your partner's kneecap."

LPA conventions always have a dance so "we can dance with people and for the first time look into their eyes."

EBONY MAGAZINE SEPT-1965

# THE LITTLE PEOPLE

## —A Tiny Minority With Big Problems

**Curbstone** makes a fine resting place for one tired young lady who has no reservations about resting. Shyness is a big problem little people have to conquer to fit into big world, and racial prejudice is minimal among those scorned for size. Little People of America, Inc. convention was held in Gloucester City, near Camden, New Jersey.

**Little People of America** President Lee Kitchens, a Texas engineer, tells Kenny how the organization seeks answers to the physical problems of dwarfs. With slight adjustments, little people match many accomplishments of those of regular size.

## Midgets, dwarfs fight size discrimination

### BY ALVIN ADAMS

ONE OF the smallest minority groups in America faces what may be the country's biggest problem.

The minority group is the "little people," persons under four feet ten inches tall. Their problem is how to live day by day in a world designed for people who are of normal size.

Unlike Negroes who can sing about "overcoming" the racial problem, little people know they shall never grow tall.

Consider Kenneth Brown.

Kenneth Brown was born on July 22, 1940, in Charleston, S. C., the eighth child of the Rev. Willis Brown, a Baptist preacher, and Mrs. Evelyn Brown.

For the first four months, he was just like any other baby. Then, his mother noticed that although his head and body continued to grow, his arms and legs did not. When Mrs. Brown learned that her son was destined to become a dwarf, her first reaction was "just to take care of him, because he's my child." Being a member of one of the country's most overlooked minority groups, the "little people," did not diminish Kenny in the world of mother love. "We loved him just as much as we loved the other children—maybe more."

When Kenny was seven years old, "he was still handicapped about looking after himself" and a private teacher came into the Brown home. Two years later, Kenny enrolled in the first grade of public school. He went all the way through high school, graduating at the age of 21.

That year, 1961, Kenny told the family he "wanted to be on his own, to look for work." With some show business dancing and master of ceremony experience under his tiny belt, Kenny set off for Camden, N. J., to make his way in the big, wide world—if possible, the show business world traditionally open to dwarfs. He toured the East Coast with Jackie Wilson for two years. But show business is a hard world even when you are tiny enough to dance on table tops.

Later, Kenny accepted a job as copy boy for a Philadelphia newspaper. After a year and a half, he gave up the work because a doctor insisted it entailed too much walking for the arthritis he suffered in his legs.

Kenny has tried for other jobs since, and he now hopes to become a radio disc jockey. Meanwhile, he lives in a dark rooming house, at the top of a long flight of stairs, and draws a welfare check. Jovial and quite alert mentally, he has set about tackling the man-sized obstacles of racial discrimination in Camden and neighboring Philadelphia, where he is a devotee of the NAACP's powerful Cecil Moore.

An extrovert by nature, Kenny is not to be ignored wherever he goes or in whatever he does. But his compatriots in size constitute

*Continued on Next Page*

## THE LITTLE PEOPLE *Continued*

one of the nation's most overlooked minority groups. Study and research-conscious America has taken so few looks at the little people that no one even knows for sure how many there are. Nor, for that matter, is anyone sure that four feet ten inches is the right place to distinguish between little people and big people. The limit was set arbitrarily, just as was the estimate that some five to seven thousand Americans fall into the "little" category.

The medical profession knows little about these people. Generally, it has classified three types of dwarfs—the pituitary, the cretin and the achondroplastic.

The pituitary dwarf results from malfunction of the pituitary gland, a small red organ the size of a pea which is located in the middle of the skull at about the level of the ears and sends into the blood stream hormones which regulate growth. Pituitary dwarfs usually look like smaller copies of normal people; they are usually normal mentally; and they are the dwarfs accurately referred to as midgets. The most famous midget was Charles S. Stratton, P. T. Barnum's General Tom Thumb.

The cretin dwarf occurs when a child's thyroid gland does not produce enough of its hormone for normal growth. If untreated, cretins become misshapen. Cretinism can be corrected by thyroid feeding begun when the victim is very young.

**Indian brothers** Marshall (l.) and Bobby Jacobs, natives of Lumberton, N. C., and now residents of Philadelphia, join Kitchens for lunch. Appearance in public, where everything is scaled for big people, often requires courage of dwarfs.

The achondroplastic dwarf may result from some abnormality of the endocrine glands. This type of dwarf has short legs, a large head and normal-sized body and arms. Achondroplasia can be inherited. This is the dwarf described in Norse mythology.

Dr. Leonard O. Langer, University of Minnesota radiologist who has studied dwarfism extensively, disagrees with popular theories that three types of glandular malfunctions cause most dwarfism. "We're talking about 40 different medical conditions," he explains. "Most dwarfs don't have an abnormality in glands; the problem is in formation of their bones. We can't document a biochemical abnormality in 85 per cent of the cases." Dr. Langer has a daughter, four years old, who is small. Citing contradictory conclusions on the causes of dwarfism, Dr. Langer feels the "first step is to try to accurately classify the different types before we research the causes." Once doctors are able to determine genetic characteristics, they can anticipate and meet medical problems of relatives and children of little people.

If the causes of dwarfism are yet relatively unknown, the cures are even less so.

Dr. William Perloff, head of endocrinology at the Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia, confesses that "we're still quite stymied in terms of growth hormone. Whereas there is hope for inexpensive, sufficient hormones, at this moment we're not much further along than in the past." Study is expensive, amounting to as much as $5,000 per person, he estimated. And worst of all, "this is not a popular cause, such as heart disease, so doctors are reluctant to devote their whole lives to studying the problems of little people." One solution, Dr. Perloff suggests, is that "the federal government must become interested in the project."

**Crowned King and Queen** of the little people's convention, chemistry Ph.D. Bob Spector and Brooklynite Elinor Ostrow get royal treatment from loyal subjects. Many year-around introverts become extroverts at week-long, once-a-year affair.

**Cutting a rug,** one-time professional dancer Kenny Brown delights partner, Mrs. Bill Aubaugh. Convention goers closed each day's session with a dance, were delighted to have partners their own sizes. LPA isn't a lonely hearts club, however.



*Continued on Page 108*

**Ten-year-old boy,** with mother at left, is four feet five inches tall and bigger than most dwarfs. The normal-sized boy, Gordon White, came to little people's meeting from Burbank, Calif., with his twin brother, Alan, who stands three feet tall.

**Teen-age batter** Bobby Hubof of Post Falls, Ida-ho, takes mighty – but late – swing at baseball (above) in traditional East-West game height-ened by pretty big ar-guments with patient umpire Pete Sessa (left).

**Teammates praise** West pitcher Billy Barty, player on *Peter Gunn* TV show, after a strike-out inning. Game is an-nual attraction of little people's convention al-though many other sports are easier for dwarfs.

**Agile Kenny Brown** scores one of East's 24 to 3 winning runs in biggest crowd-drawing game played on Gloucester little league field. Physical acts—such as running—are difficult for most dwarfs and long hit balls just got player to first.

## THE LITTLE PEOPLE *Continued*

While medicine has overlooked the little people, the public at large has laughed at them. Since the Middle Ages when dwarfs entertained at the European courts of kings, little people have been considered court jesters. Traditionally, only side show jobs have been open to them. "Let's face it, these people look funny," one doctor stated frankly.

Therein lies the dwarf's biggest problem.

Like the Negro, he has a "visibility problem," declared Dr. Perloff. "Colored people have to fight it; short people can't and there aren't enough of them."

The only other course is to change their image. Consequently, little people, as a whole, shun show business jobs with distaste equaled only by the "new Negro" refusing watermelon.

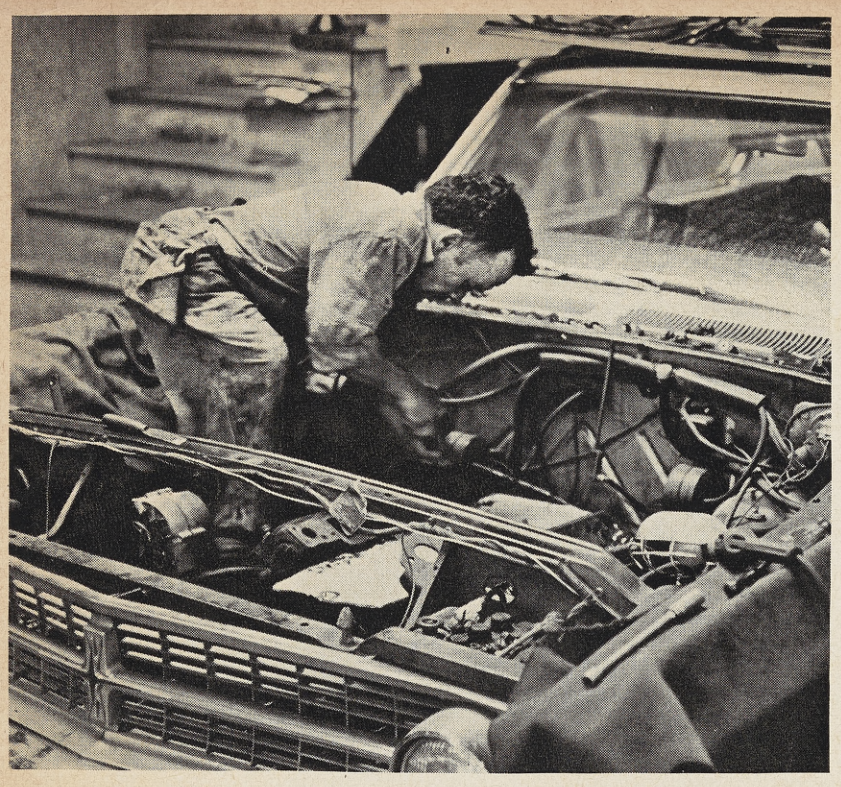
"There is nothing big people do that we can't do," boasts Lee Kitchens of Richardson, Texas, president of the Little People of America, Inc.

That revelation, uttered at the seventh annual convention of the organization, opened a big—er, small—new world to Kenneth Brown.

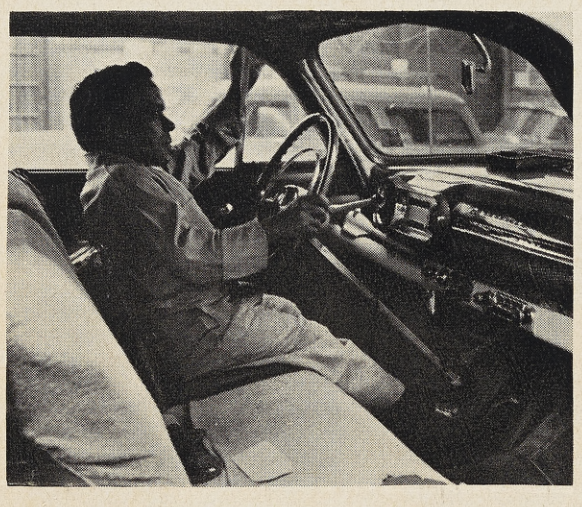
Kitchens, 35, has made the giant step that spans both the big and small worlds. Four feet one inch tall in a state where everything al-legedly is Texas-sized, Kitchens was trained as an engineer at Southern Methodist University and is employed as head of a test equipment de-sign engineering group at Texas Instruments, Inc., the world's largest manufacturer of transistors. Kitchens even flies his own airplane. He is married to the former Mary Belle Perryman, who is three feet eleven inches tall, and they have two adopted children, both "little littles" as dwarf children are called. (A special adoption agency finds homes for "little littles," usually unwanted in the big world.) The Kitchens' home, the second house they have bought, is furnished, with few exceptions, like any big person's home might be equipped. "What differences we have are inconspicuous," the family man explained. The furniture is contemporary, which ordinarily is low. "Contrary to popular belief, little people don't saw the legs off everything," the usually solemn-faced businessman grinned. Light switches are doorknob high, which is be-coming common in new homes. "I hate stairs, so there are no steps, even at the front door." The house was constructed at ground level. In the kitchen, the counter is 27 inches high instead of the usual 36 inches. The built-in counter top range is just a little lower than usual. The bathroom fixtures are low, and they were available at no extra cost. "And they're not little children size," he added, and again a grin cracked the serious countenance of his face. "There is only one piece of special furniture in my house," he boasted. "My chair at the desk in my study, and my parents gave it to me 20 years ago when I was a kid."

Refusing to concede that they face discrimination because of size, little people prefer to look upon their difficulties as "nuisances."

Most of these are physical, such as water fountains, telephones and store counters beyond their reach, or clothing that has to be tailor made or made over.



**Auto mechanic** Marshall Jacobs, four feet, one inch tall, has learned to "get right in with the motor" while working. Driving a car (right) is just as easy as fixing one with special feet, back extensions.



**Married to five feet seven inch,** 230-pound Indian wife, Marshall is not handicapped at home by size. The couple gave birth to three children, all now deceased.

**In favorite easy chair,** Marshall relaxes after hard day the way any working man would—with a cold drink and favorite TV program. Now a resident of Philadelphia, Marshall, 41, learned his trade in a 1938 Civilian Conservation Corp camp.

## THE LITTLE PEOPLE *Continued*

There is some economic prejudice, where employers automatically exclude little people from consideration for jobs. Quick to announce that less than one per cent of its members earn their livings in show business, Little People of America (LPA) likes to herald the occupations of its less illustrious members, those who in the big world would be considered ordinary or little people. These are the watchmaker, TV repairman, chemist, psychiatrist, bookkeeper, service station operator, nurse, secretary, teacher, farmer, I.B.M. operator, printer, baker, advertising representative, real estate salesman, public relations man, bartender, speech therapist, cook, hotel clerk and many more.

Stressing education as the key to the little people's economic futures, Kitchens said, "Only in unskilled trades do we have a job problem. There, we are competing on a physical rather than mental basis. Some (little people) compete quite well in this. Once in a while some employer will say 'no, you're too little.' Instead of feeling sorry for ourselves, we simply go somewhere else."

Bobby Jacobs, a 29-year-old Indian from Lumberton, N. C., is familiar with the "sorry, too short" routine. He also knew how to overcome it. Bobby is four feet six and one half inches tall. He went only as far as the eighth grade in the Indian school. He applied for a job at Tartan Knitting Mills in Philadelphia. "The company said I was too small to do the work. A friend of mine was a supervisor, so he gave me a three day trial and started me at $1.30 an hour. On the fourth day, I got a permanent job and a 10 cent raise." A member of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, he separates the wool when it comes down from the knitters and he sends it to be washed.

Bobby's 41 year old brother, Marshall Jacobs, also lives in Philadel-

**Devout Christians,** Marshall and Parrie Jacobs study Bible and religious lessons in preparation for coming services. Marshall is an active deacon in the Church of Christ.

**Bobby Jacobs** works in mills separating orders (above) as the wool comes down and sending it to be washed (right). Denied job at first, four feet six inch man was hired after a three-day trial.

**A bachelor,** 29-year-old Bobby lives in Philadelphia apartment furnished to accommodate his size, including mirror set on floor. Bobby meets the near-perfect proportions that classify a dwarf as a midget.

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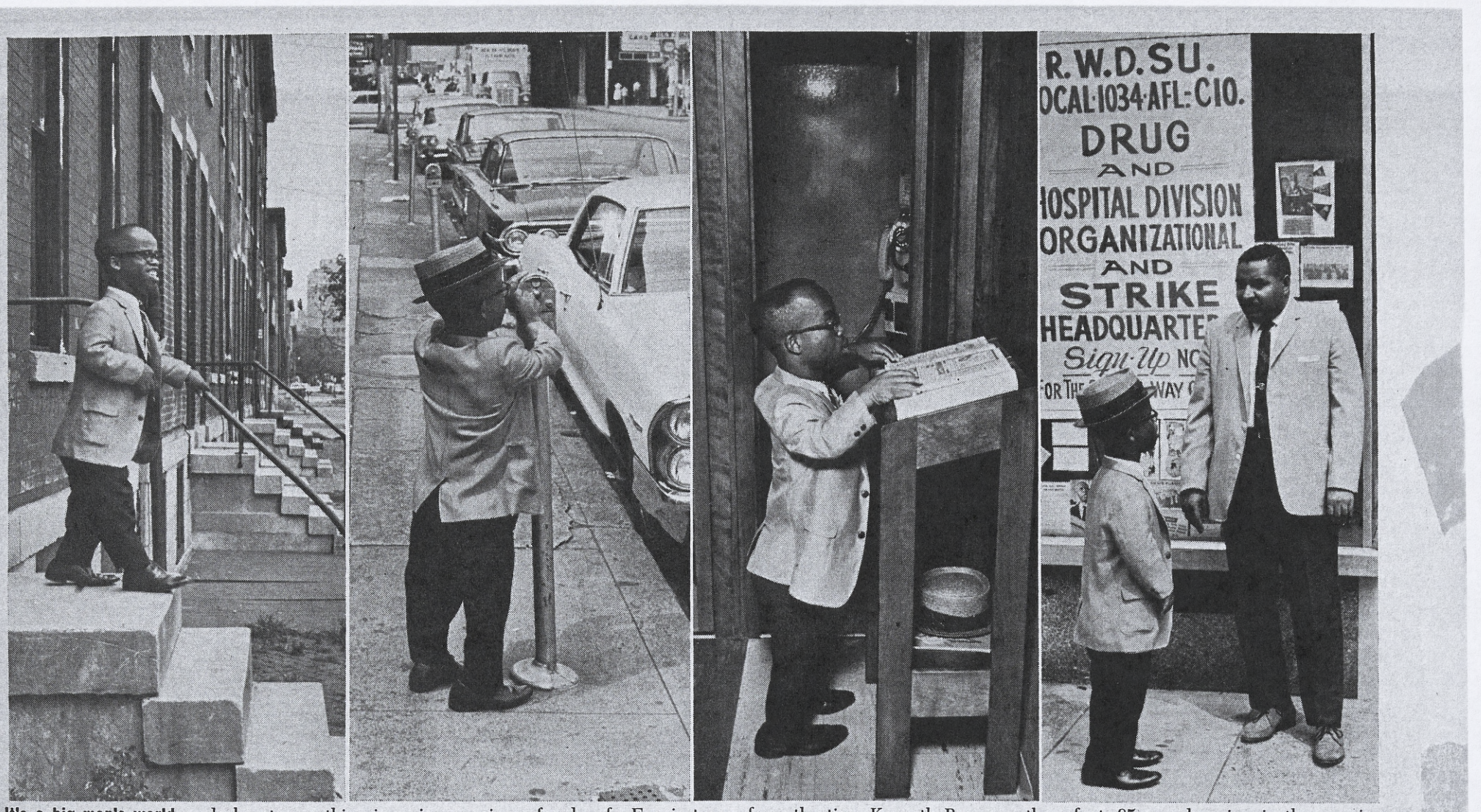



**It's a big man's world,** and almost everything is an inconvenience for dwarfs. For instance, from the time Kenneth Brown, a three foot, 85-pounder, rises in the morning and leaves the top floor of his brownstone rooming house (left), he is always reaching or looking up, whether it be for parking meters, telephones or talking to someone.

## THE LITTLE PEOPLE *Continued*

phia and is an automobile mechanic. He is four feet one inch tall. He learned his trade—along with brick masonry, carpentry and welding—in a CCC camp. He admits, "I have a little difficulty getting under the hood of a car," but he has learned to maneuver in such a way as to "make the work an advantage." For instance, when repairing something on the motor he says, "I get right in there with the motor and sit down."

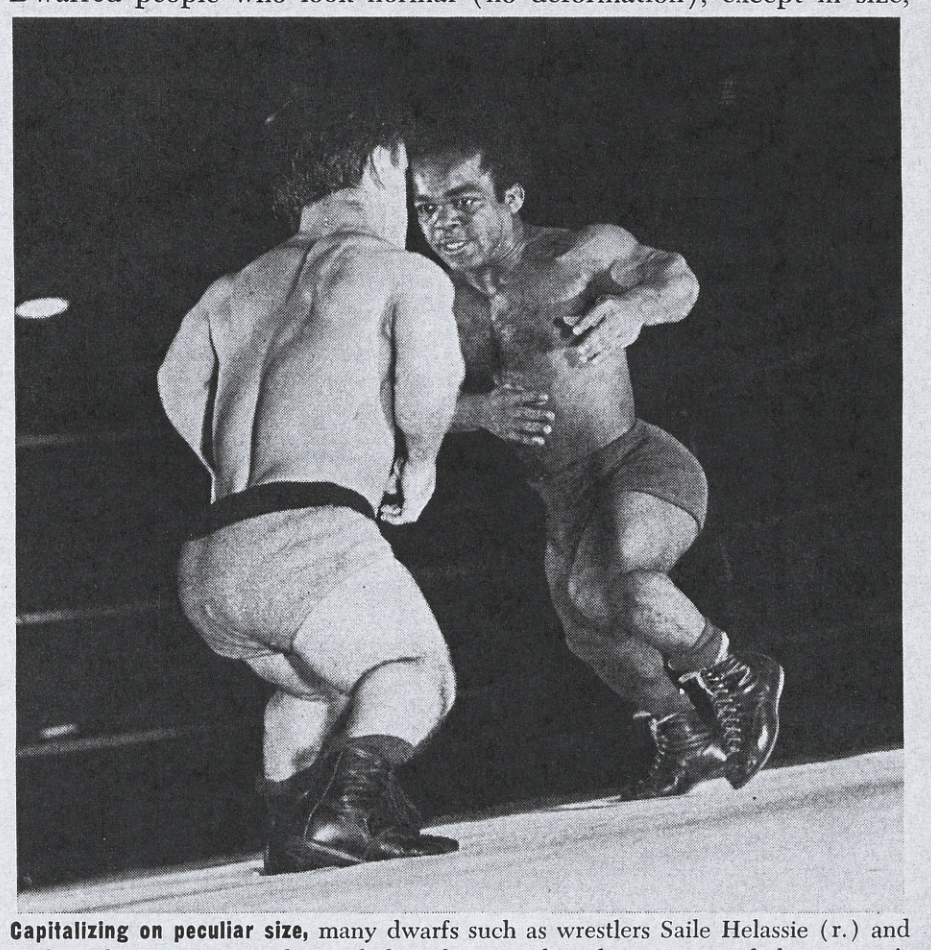
Harriet Hoppert of Milwaukee, like several "little people," is a teacher. Forty years old, she stands four feet two inches tall in her second and third grade classroom. It is "no problem teaching the kids once I get to know them," she says. "If there is a problem, it is that the kids adore me. Kids cheer when they learn they are being promoted to Miss Hoppert's room. The kids respect me as a teacher but also know I'm their friend." The reaction is similar in the world of adults. "People first are curious; then they take to you and over-spoil you."

More important than the job problems little people face are the many social problems.

There are three major—and crucial—phases in the life of a small person. 1) When the small child enters public school and leaves the sheltered home life. This can be a shock. 2) The teen-age years, when boys begin to enter sports and little people are left out. Some activities, such as bowling and golf, they can enter, but things that require running handicap little people. 3) Young adulthood, when the little person begins to wonder if he or she can have a home and family and hold down a job.

Radiologist Dr. Langer said there is a problem as far as the social aspect of sex is concerned because there are not many little people. Dwarfed people who look normal (no deformation), except in size,

**Beauty queen** Deena Roberson, Miss Camden of 1965, draws admiring glances from the little man as she talks with union representative Thomas E. Gaskins. Kenny aided Camden hospital strike, Philly Girard College tiff in civil rights drives.



**Capitalizing on peculiar size,** many dwarfs such as wrestlers Saile Helassie (r.) and Irish Jackie enter some form of show business but the majority of the country's little people shun entertainment jobs and enter occupations anyone else seeks.

have a better chance of marrying and fitting into the big world. "The deformed don't have much chance. Therefore, there is increased illegitimacy among deformed little people. But by and large, size is not as much of a factor as are the social difficulties."

One four-foot, two-inch woman at the coronation ball of the little people's king and queen danced until the last note of the 14-piece orchestra wafted away. "It's so nice to dance and lean on the shoulder of a man," she sighed. "Here (at LPA meetings), you're treated as a woman." She was quick to clarify that the organization "is not a lonely hearts club, but it is nice to dance." Little men want to prove themselves as men, she surmised and concluded that "many are more manly than other (regular sized) men."

Rutgers University sociologist Dr. Martin Weinberg, a five-foot-five and one half inch man, drew some interesting conclusions from a preliminary study of the social lives of little people. "Before joining LPA, many little people had no social life. It is estimated that 95 per cent never went to a party or a public dinner before. They wouldn't take that chance. Some never had a date before. When they (gather with other little people) they become Don Juans."

Dr. Weinberg feels an organization such as LPA is an asset to little people. "When they come here, the world opens up to them. On the outside, if they are stared at they become self conscious. Here, they like it. What was a punishment then is a reward now. They are taught here how to live as humans. Sociologically, they enter the organization and learn a strategy of behavior. We all play a role everyday. Because they might have been hidden away, little people did not learn how to play the role. Some have never been to school. In LPA, they watch other little people and see what they do. They learn how to handle themselves in relation to big people."

Harriet Hoppert bridges the gap between the big and small world quickly. "I put people at ease immediately by opening my mouth first," she said. "My mother always told me to let the world know who Harriet Hoppert is."

Not all little people are so effervescent.

"Little people are just like normal people," is how the always-image-conscious gathering shatters any generalities about themselves.

Because little people in America are still such a small minority group (an estimated five to seven thousand in a total population of 192 million), LPA's "one for all—all for one" philosophy may well result in the most cohesive class of people since the unification of the Jew.

"You always have to think as a group, not for yourself," said petite 19-year-old Mrs. Sally Bedow of Owatonna, Minn. "We're always on the alert to do our best. Eventually you get used to the pressure; you know you are trailblazing for others. Especially on the job." The daughter of Lee Wright, a four-foot tall retired businessman, and his four-foot-eight-inch school teacher wife of Texarkana, Texas, four-foot-eight-inch Mrs. Bedow is a payroll clerk. Her husband, LPA treasurer Charles Bedow, is an insurance company sales correspondent. "When big people goof," Mrs. Bedow explained, "people say he had a bad day. When a little person goofs, they say he's 'little people'."

How do little people endure this inescapable, Herculean pressure?

"We make it strictly by personality," said Charles Bedow.

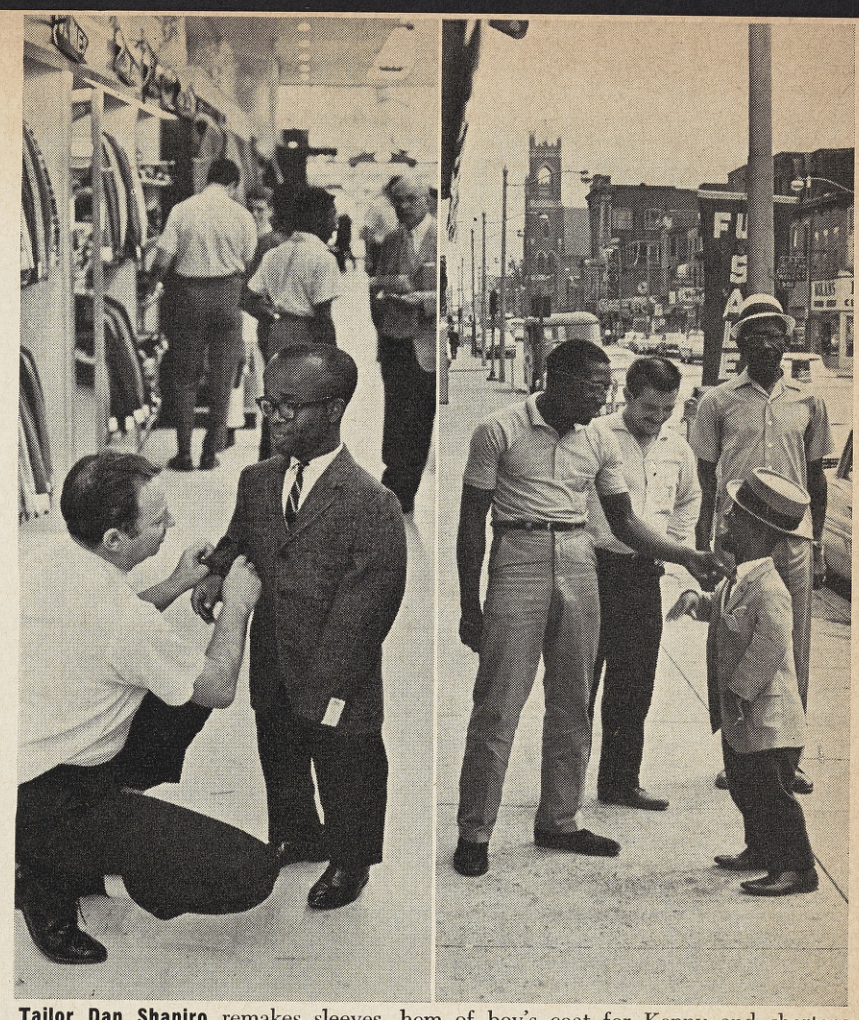
"Our sense of humor has made it," suggested Harriet Hoppert.

Indeed, a sense of humor seems to be a prerequisite for little people who want to fit into the big world. And though nothing makes a dwarf angrier than being the butt of your joke, he may put you at ease instantly by telling you a joke about his size.

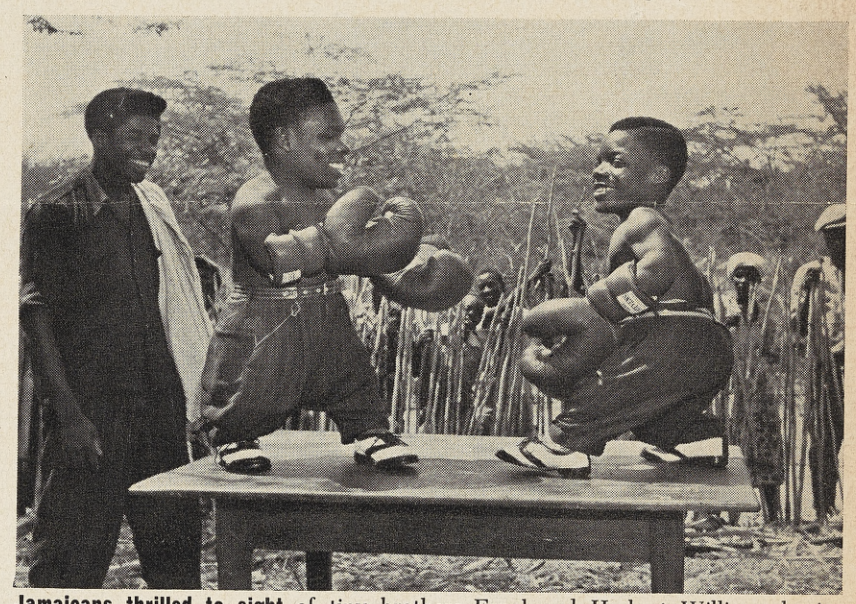
Charles Bedow, who is four-foot-six-inch tall, for instance, quips that "like a compact car, I'm a compact person."

Bob Hinkson, an accountant at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, chuckles: "Little people have a lower center of gravity and we don't stagger, so we can drink more." Hinkson, who is three-foot-seven-inch tall and weighs 105 pounds, has three, six-foot tall brothers. "The year I was born, crops were bad everywhere," he grins. And "I get wider than I do tall. I don't know if I'm walking or rolling."

"Learning to accept yourself for what you are is the first big step toward entering the overgrown world," LPA President Lee Kitchens tells dwarfs. (His word 'overgrown' suggests that he has put the burden of belonging on the other guy.) "The main purpose of Little People of America, Inc., is to provide the environment to adjust to yourself, then to society. You have to quit dreaming for some miracle drug or panacea out of the blue to make you grow up physically."

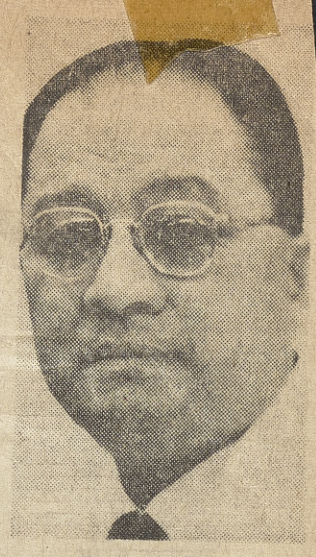


**Tailor Dan Shapiro** remakes sleeves, hem of boy's coat for Kenny and shortens trouser legs by half. Kenney is store's smallest customer and Wilt Chamberlain is tallest. Snappy wardrobe diminishes his size deficiency (right) to some extent.



**Jamaicans thrilled to sight** of tiny brothers Ernel and Herbert Williams boxing on a table top in a tradition that dates back to the Middle Ages when dwarfs in Europe often served as court jesters. Today, dwarfs seek normal lives.

**Well proportioned** dwarfs such as Frankie Dee have found positions representing nationally-known products. Dee, a representative of Schenley industries, won award from Burr Gibson for March of Dimes participation as Charles Bynum watches.



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By JAMES HAZELWOOD
Tribune Science Writer

The human growth hormone (HGH), one of the most vital regulatory substances in the body, has been synthesized by a team of biochemists at the University of California, San Francisco.

Chancellor Philip R. Lee hailed the discovery at a press conference yesterday as "one of the most important discoveries to come from this campus."

No one can predict the ultimate importance of the discovery but Dr. Lee said it opens new vistas for research in the conquest of such widely divergent diseases as cancer, atherosclerosis and a host of others.

The synthesis, the most complex and difficult of its kind ever undertaken, is a new triumph for Dr. C. H. Li, director of the university's Hormone Research Laboratory.

Dr. Li received wide acclaim when he led a team to the first identification of the structure of the HGH molecule in 1966.

The brilliant Chinese-American scientist is a professor of biochemistry and experimental endocrinology.

HGH is known to control human growth but it has many other apparent functions in the body.

It is known to have or suspected of having, a key part in the repair of broken bones, the promotion of the healing of wounds, the lowering of blood cholesterol, the enhancement of resistance to infection and stimulation of the action of both male and female hormones.

The primary effect of the HGH synthesis is that, for the first time, laboratories will be able to make enough of it for important research projects.

HGH is manufactured by the body in the pituitary gland, the pea-sized so-called

See Back Page, Col. 4

Continued from Page 1

"master" gland at the base of the skull.

Before synthesis became possible, HGH was available only in minute amounts taken from the bodies of persons who recently died.

Most of this tiny supply was diverted to special hospitals where dwarfism in children is treated and practically none was available for research.

Dr. Li said that no plans are yet afoot to manufacture the hormone in quantity but he is confident that it will be done within a couple of years.

The HGH synthesis is the culmination of 32 years of research on the mysteries of the pituitary gland by Dr. Li.

The little gland manufactures the chemicals which govern almost every important function of the body.

Hormones from the pituitary control body growth, reproduction, thinness or fatness, milk production and skin coloring.

The pituitary is also believed to be involved in cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, allergic reactions and metabolic disease.

It is because of these far-ranging effects of the pituitary'es hormoness that scientists are so excited about the many avenues of research opened up by snythetic HGH.

Dr. Li said his synthetic product has only about 10 per cent of the potency of the pure hormone at present, but he believes this can be greatly improved.

"It may not be as pure as the latent (natural) hormone or the molecule may not be exactly the right shape," he said.

In 1966, Dr. Li and his associates revealed that the HGH molecule contains a chain of 188 amino acids which coil, snake-like, around each other and are joined in two places by bridges.

It is now by far the largest molecule ever to be synthesized.

Chancellor Lee said the discovery was the result of "meticulous, painstaking and brilliant research."

He was particularly proud, he said, that it has been made when almost all of the nation's great research laboratories, including the U.C. Hormone Research Laboratory directed by Dr. Li, are operating on greatly reduced government assistance.

Dr. Li said the hormone synthetic has not yet been tested in humans and added that he may first try it on himself.

DR. SELNA KAPLAN RUNS HORMONE PROGRAM
She watches her patients grow and grow at UCSF

# A Hospital Clinic For Little People

By ROXANE ARNOLD
Copley News Service

LOS ANGELES — Some people have brown eyes and some have blue.

Some people are tall and some are short.

And some people are very, very short.

These so-called little people are faced with some monumental problems, not the least of which is living in a world designed for five- and 6-footers.

In spite of the obvious problems and inconveniences, most little people cope surprisingly well with the world, say doctors at Harbor General Hospital in suburban Torrance, the home of a once-a-week short stature clinic.

Often, the most serious problem facing the dwarf is the physical deformity that is part of being small.

It is the job of Harbor General physicians to determine which of more than 100 kinds of dwarfism the patient suffers from.

Then treatment, when available, can begin.

A clinic visit for patient Kirstin Lee of Tucson, Ariz., is a fairly routine series of checkups, measurements and X-rays.

Kirstin, 5, suffers from a genetic mutation called achondroplasia dwarfism.

The bright and active preschooler is easygoing and good-natured, say her parents.

Only one thing sets her apart from others her age.

Kirstin has overly short arms and legs and a large head, and for this, doctors say, there is no cure.

Only "Tom Thumb" dwarfism or small stature caused by a malfunctioning pituitary gland can be helped at this point, says Dr. David L. Rimoin, the chief of Harbor General's division of medical genetics.

"Our function," Dr. Rimoin says, "is to make a diagnosis and provide genetic counseling — what the risks are, how the condition affects others in the family and what medical problems are associated with the disorder."

# Scientific Hope For Stunted Kids

Continued from Page 1

bones of the arms and legs but leaves the head and trunk a normal size.

"Most circus midgets fall into this category, although Tom Thumb had HGH deficiency," said Dr. Kaplan.

Other conditions leading to smallness include Turner's Syndrome, hypopituitarism and simple genetic short stature.

The two tests commonly used for detecting HGH deficiency at UCSF involve a night's stay at the hospital by the child and about three hours of laboratory work, Dr. Kaplan said.

The presence of HGH in the blood can be elevated or fade away to practically nothing at any given time, even among ordinary persons.

But if the patient is given a dose of a purified amino acid, the pituitary will be stimulated to produce HGH, if it can.

Another method is to induce hypoglycemia — lowering the blood sugar with small doses of insulin. This has the same result. A blood test will then show whether the pituitary is putting out HGH or not.

The major difficulty in treating HGH deficient children lies in obtaining enough of the hormone. Although hundreds of autopsies are performed every day, only the pituitaries of those who have given prior consent may be used. This is a pitifully small percentage.

Dr. Kaplan is hopeful that continuing publicity will induce many more persons to will their pituitaries to the National Pituitary Agency.

Ironically, the ultimate solution to the scarcity problem would seem to be contained in a massive array of bottles, tubes and centrifuges located in a laboratory on the same campus where Dr. Kaplan does her work.

Early this year, a team led by Dr. C. H. Li, the brilliant Chinese-born biochemist, announced that it had synthesized HGH, a feat of breathtaking technical excellence.

The way would then seem to be open to licensing a commercial laboratory to manufacture HGH in quantity, using Dr. Li's methods.

But the bitter reality is that the genius of Dr. Li's team, which has still produced only tiny quantities of the synthetic hormone, cannot be readily duplicated in a commercial lab.

The HGH molecule is one of the most complex known, consisting of a sequence of 188 amino acids in a coiled sequence which is joined by two delicate bridges. Putting such molecules together, in the right sequence, and in quantity, would be a chemical nightmare.

Dr. Kaplan is hopeful that simpler artificial methods will be found before this is accomplished, which may augment the natural supply of HGH.

"We know that HGH has a number of other functions besides controlling growth," she said.

"If we can find out exactly which part of the molecule is responsible for growth development, it would be much simpler to synthesize only that part and leave the rest of it out."

Another possibility, she said, is finding out more about a substance called growth hormone releasing factor which is manufactured in a part of the brain called the hypothalamus and is a trigger which releases HGH in the pituitary.

If the mechanism of this interaction could be determined, she said, it might be possible to manipulate it to artificially stimulate the release of HGH.

As often happens in cases of difficult medical problems, an organization has arisen to promote the cause of HGH deficiency treatment.

It is called the Human Growth Foundation, and Dr. Kaplan is medical director of the Northern California chapter.

"Our objectives are to increase the collection of pituitary glands, the promotion of funds for research into growth problems, the education of both parents and children, and public education," she said.

The UCSF program has been quietly plugging away now for six years. Four hundred children have been tested and 20 per cent of these have been found to have evidence of HGH deficiency.

Forty-four of these young patients have been accepted for treatment and 95 per cent have shown marked improvement.

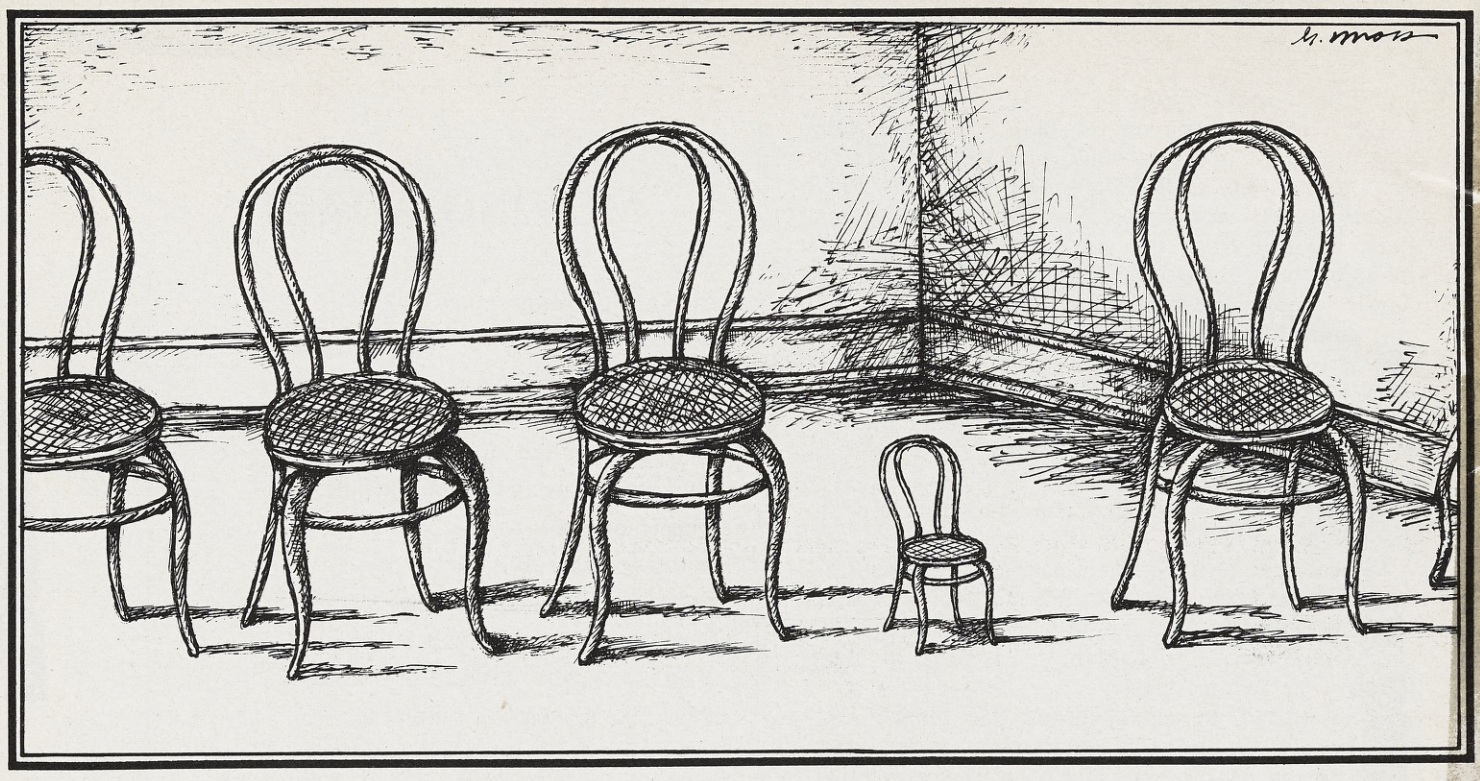
Some doubled and even tripled their growth rate in the early part of the program and are now leveling off at a normal rate of two or three inches per year.

Four to seven years of treatment are necessary before the diminutive children catch up with their peers and no longer need treatment.

Dr. Kaplan admits this is a great many shots and says that many of the children complain when they have to have them.

But she is convinced they will spend the rest of their lives being glad they did.

Atlantic Monthly Sept. 1975



# DWARFS

by Sonny Kleinfield

Roughly 100,000 Americans are dwarfs. They have trouble finding mates, buying shoes, using elevators or public telephones—and admitting to themselves that they are, in fact, different.

Charles Bedou, at the age of forty, stands four and a half feet tall. When the tow-headed Bedou was born, he weighed nearly nine pounds and was the size of any normal baby. Five years later, however, he was less than two feet tall; at ten, he was three feet; when he celebrated his eighteenth birthday, he was four-foot-six; and in the ensuing twenty-two years, he did not grow another inch. His body is all out of whack. His head and torso are the size of a much taller person's; his arms and legs are much too small. He is what is known as a dwarf.

Bedou's parents split up when he was six, and since neither wanted custody, he was shuffled from relative to relative, "like a plate of spaghetti," until, at last, when he was eighteen he ran away. "I had no dates in school, and I didn't have many friends," he says. "When you're the only dwarf in sixteen counties, whom do you date? It took me more than six months to find a job. I applied to more places than you have fingers and toes, and everyone felt my brain must be as stunted as my body. When I finally got work at an insurance company in Minnesota, there were still things my boss didn't want me to do. Life hasn't been exactly marvelous."

Dwarfs receive mention in the Bible, and during ancient times household dwarfs were extremely popular: they were kept by the early pharaohs and abounded at the courts of the Ptolemies. They flourished once again in imperial Rome, where slave children were occasionally stunted to increase the fetching price. Kings in medieval Europe and during the Renaissance kept them at hand, and some dwarfs became such favorites that they themselves were given servants. Isabella d'Este designed part of her palace for dwarfs, and remembered two of them in her will. They appear in a number of Velasquez's paintings. During the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the czars and noblemen of

# How to Help Stunted Children

Tribune photo by Kenneth Green

James Owsley, 16, of Berkeley, is growing to normal height despite a hormone deficiency which would have left him under five feet tall. Mrs. Annie Murphy, his mother, checks new growth spurred by injections of Human Growth Hormone.

By JAMES HAZELWOOD
Tribune Science Writer

Little Georgie had a problem. People liked to pick him up.

It's a common enough occurrence. Parents are wandering between the shelves of a supermarket. A stranger spots their angelic four or five-year-old and can't resist swinging him up in their arms.

And Georgie was the perfect picture of an angelic four-year-old except for one thing.

He was really nine.

Georgie is one of approximately 500,000 children in the United States who, in the normal course of events, would never achieve a height of five feet.

There are a number of reasons why some people can never grow to normal adult size but one of the most important is a scarcity of an incredibly complex body chemical called Human Growth Hormone or HGH.

HGH is secreted by that potent little gland in the base of the skull called the pituitary. Its actions and interactions as it causes the body to grow are so subtle that science has not yet been able to fully unravel them.

But without an adequate supply of the hormone, growth is seriously impaired.

Fortunately, Georgie's condition is no longer the hopeless case it might have been if he had been born a few years ago. In fact, his size is now just about normal and he shows every sign of becoming a full-sized adult.

This is possible because of a little-publicized program taking place at the University of California—in San Francisco and about 15 other medical centers throughout the United States.

The program sounds simple. Children in their growth years who can be shown to have a marked deficiency of HGH are given injections of the hormone. Usually, it makes them grow.

The injections, in most cases, are given at home by a parent three times a week. The results can only be described as astounding. There are rarely any side effects. Within months, the short, plumpish bodies begin to harden up and inch their way upward on the measurement charts.

The treatment brings joy to the parents, unbounded relief to the young patients and a deep measure of satisfaction to the doctors administering the program.

Regrettably, it still has severe limitations and is likely to have them for some time.

Human Growth Hormone, as the name implies, can come only from the pituitaries of humans. Animals have their own kinds of growth hormones, and they are totally unsuitable for use in people.

HGH can be obtained only from the pituitaries of people who have just died. These are removed during autopsies, frozen or immersed in a preservative, and sent to the National Pituitary Agency sponsored by the National Institute of Health in Washington, D.C.

There, the hormone is carefully extracted, purified, and sent to the various centers which have an HGH program.

The UCSF program is under the jurisdiction of the pediatrics department headed by Dr. Melvin M. Grumbach.

Dr. Selna Kaplan heads the pediatric endocrine unit which actually carries out the work.

"Almost all of our patients are referrals from doctors, such as family physicians, who have observed that children under their care are failing to grow normally," Dr. Kaplan said.

"If untreated, children with HGH deficiency will end up as short adults, usually between four and four and one-half feet tall.

"Puberty and sexual development are usually normal, although females may need to have children delivered by Caesarian section because of their small pelvis size.

"There are many psychological problems involved," she added.

"Children are rather cruel to each other. If there's anything about you that's different, it's likely to lead to being teased."

In a couple of cases, she said, parents of HGH deficient children went to their classrooms and initiated discussions with teachers and pupils about the nature of the problem and the treatment their youngsters were being given.

"The results were most beneficial," said Dr. Kaplan.

The diagnosis of HGH deficiency in young children is complicated by the fact that a number of other diseases and conditions can produce much the same results.

One of the most familiar is achondroplasia, a mysterious ailment which shortens the

See Back Page, Col. 1

12-28-67

# Pituitary Gland Drive Announced

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Federal Government has announced a program to increase its collection of human pituitary glands in an effort to cure dwarfism in children.

The National Institute of Health said yesterday a $287,500 contract had been awarded to the University of Maryland School of Medicine to increase and improve the collection of pituitary glands.

The university will work with the National Pituitary Agency in distributing human growth hormone, secreted by the glands, to qualified researchers.

NIH said that the only present source of the hormone is the pituitary gland of a dead person, but that research has shown that one gland provides only enough hormone for about five days treatment of a child suffering from hypopituitary dwarfism, which is the result of insufficient secretions of human growth hormones.

The hormone now can only be given to about 400 patients connected with research projects because it has been impossible to collect enough glands to treat the estimated 5,000 to 10,000 children suffering from hypopituitary dwarfism in the United States.

However, other studies are under way in an attempt to chemically modify growth hormones from cattle so that they can be used in treating humans.

# Dwarf, Two Blondes on Naked Stroll

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — A naked dwarf with a peg leg and a beard walked down two blocks of busy Market Street Wednesday with two attractive nude blonds.

The three said they were soldiers in the Om United New World Nude Brigade with the objective of detaching mankind from 6,000 years of sexual guilt.

They may not have won their war—but they got plenty of attention before jumping into a waiting car and speeding off.

They were identified as Pat Om, Nancy Om and Larry Om by a clothed young man who said his name was Baba Om. He stayed behind to explain the nude walkers.

"Om is the supreme sound or vibration, which in this country is known as God," Baba Om said. "People confuse nudity with sex...and sex in this day and age has always meant degeneracy, bad habits and lewdness."

"Today you see everything,' said the corner news vendor.

Russia kept innumerable dwarfs, and elaborate dwarf weddings and funerals were not uncommon. However, while especially personable dwarfs earned responsible positions, most of them functioned as lowly entertainers and as household fools. In Western Europe, household dwarfs were still heard of in the eighteenth century, but their visibility had declined.

In the United States today, dwarfs have formed a national organization called The Little People of America, which has its headquarters in Owatonna, Minnesota. The association was founded in 1957 by a group of twenty dwarfs who convened in Reno, Nevada. The idea for the meeting, as it happens, came from Spike Jones, of zany music fame, who urged his friend, dwarf actor Billy Barty, to start an outfit that would speak for little people. Barty served as the first president, and by 1960 the association had a hundred members. Now, more than 2200 little people have joined the association. Anyone four-foot-ten or smaller (the height arbitrarily fixed by the medical profession as distinguishing dwarfs from normal-sized people) can join. The organization's motto is "Think Big," and its basic message is that dwarfs suffer mainly because of society's attitude toward them.

Among other things, the association maintains an adoption referral service, which finds homes for dwarf children abandoned by parents. "A lot of dwarfs used to be committed to mental institutions by parents who didn't want them," an LPA man says. In 1968, the LPA established a foundation to raise funds for scholarships and for the ordinary expenses of needy dwarfs. A special division is devoted to problems faced by teen-aged dwarfs. "At one time, the world thought the only thing to do with little people was to put them in sideshows and laugh at them," says Gerald Rasa, a Pennsylvania public relations man who is the LPA's president. "They were labeled 'heaven's curse.' We're trying to show the world that we are useful, that we're not society's black sheep."

"Dwarfs have a lot of architectural problems that we're trying to learn to deal with," says Bedou, a former president of the LPA. "Ever since I can remember, my feet have dangled over the edge of chairs. I would literally slide off the seat. To stay on, I have to wrap my legs around the chair, like I'm riding a bucking bronco. It's not very dignified. Get on your knees and try to make a phone call from a public telephone. Get on your knees and try to negotiate the first step on a bus. Get into an elevator and try to push the button for the seventy-eighth floor. I have to have clothing custom-made, and it costs me just as much as it does Wilt Chamberlain. Imagine going into a shoe store and asking for a nice loafer in a size one."

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Sonny Kleinfield is a staff writer for *The Wall Street Journal.*

Bedou, however, makes the most of his four feet and six inches. "If I have to make a phone call," he says, "I holler at someone, 'Put the damn dime in for me.' I have a very good set of lungs, and I don't hesitate to use them. I can't use a urinal in a men's room. It's outrageous that I should have to pay a dime, so I crawl under a stall, and I usually go down the line and open them all up. You plan a little better when you're short. I use pedal extensions to drive a car. Other dwarfs I know fly their own planes with similar devices. Our homes aren't much different, except we favor modern furniture, because it's usually low-slung. I have lots of stools around the house. Some of us, you know, are not much more than two feet tall."

Largely under the auspices of the LPA, dwarfs have brought to the attention of legislators the architectural problems they face. They have joined other minority groups, such as the National Association of the Physically Handicapped, to push for legislation requiring lower pay phones, curbside ramps, railings in public toilets, and similar conveniences.

Short-statured persons share a fierce pride in their heritage, and they take pleasure in pointing out the movers and shakers of their kind who have played important roles in history. Attila the Hun, for instance, is believed to have been a dwarf, an unusually bloodthirsty one. Both Charles III, king of Sicily and Naples in the fourteenth century, and his contemporary, Ladislas I of Poland, were midgets. Ladislas won the nickname of the Warrior Midget King, and the history books credit (or discredit) him with having trimmed a substantial number of taller men down to his size in battle. The twenty-three-inch midget Richebourg of Paris played no small part in the French Revolution. Along with hidden dispatches, he was thumbed through enemy lines as a babe in arms; he would nurse a bottle until safety was reached and then, after fumbling in his clothes, would produce and light up a tremendous cigar. Sir Jeffrey Hudson, a midget courtier during the reign of Charles I in seventeenth-century England, polished off his share of men in his country's wars, only to wind up a captive of Turkish pirates.

A number of noncombatant midgets and dwarfs also made the history books—Coppernin, who served the mother of George II; Nicholas Ferry, a counselor-attendant to King Stanislas of Poland. Even so, dwarf history owes most of its notoriety to Phineas T. Barnum, whose midget showpiece, General Tom Thumb, became one of the most popular men of his era. Thumb was not a career soldier. Originally, his name was Charles Sherwood Stratton; the alias derived from the ballad containing the line, "In Arthur's court, Tom Thumb did live," and Barnum threw on the "General" in the interest of public relations.

Thumb stood thirty-one inches tall, and weighed almost seventy pounds. Barnum presented him as the tiniest man in the annals of civilization, a bit of mendacity willfully indulged by the General. Barnum found Thumb a pint-sized bride named Lavinia Warren, who, he claimed, was the smallest woman to walk the earth, though she would have needed several inches of cropping to warrant that distinction. With customary hoopla, Barnum arranged a wedding in New York's Grace Episcopal Church in 1863, a tribute to bad taste that afforded possibly the worst start ever made by newlyweds, whatever their height. The honeymoon junket included a pause for dinner at the White House with President Lincoln, whose waist was higher than either Thumb or his new bride. In the end, Thumb and his wife proved of heartier substance than their theatrical mentor. While Barnum's financial condition took a nose dive, General and Mrs. Thumb gradually left the stage and went into the real estate business in Connecticut. They made a fortune.

The vast majority of dwarfs stand between forty and fifty-four inches tall. (Pygmies, who aren't classified as dwarfs, average around fifty-six inches, and, without exception, inherit their stunted stature.) If one is to believe Ripley's *Believe It or Not* anthology, the smallest dwarf was Pauline Musters of Holland, all of nineteen inches. Fully erect, she could walk under the dining-room table and not even muss her hair. Juan de la Cruz of the Philippines billed himself the world's smallest father; he measured two feet tall. Forty-eight-inch John Louis Roventini gained worldwide fame by serving for forty-one years as a living trademark for Philip Morris Inc.'s cigarettes. His shrill voice was insured for $50,000, and, for his own protection, his contract forbade that he ride the subway during rush hour. A former New York bellboy, "Johnny" retired last year after millions of calls for "Phil-lip Mor-rees!"

A number of dwarfs, for unknown reasons, start to grow again and, usually in their late twenties or early thirties, attain normal height. Austria's Adam Rainer zoomed from three-foot-ten at the age of twenty-one to seven-foot-two at thirty-two, the most dramatic growth spurt known. Some dwarfs, despite their initial grief over being tiny, are haunted by the prospect of a late spurt. Once they have become oriented to their special adulthood, they are understandably wary of realigning themselves to a new and puzzling scale. Dwarf legend has it that small people lead short lives, and though medical research disproves the idea, life insurance companies tend to believe it; dwarfs complain they have trouble purchasing policies. Le Petit M. Richebourg of Paris lived to the ripe old age of ninety.

For many years dwarfs had few job opportunities outside the field of entertainment. The outbreak of World War II did a lot to change that. For the first time, they were able to enter aircraft factories, defense plants, shipyards, and government offices, and much to the surprise of employers, they proved capable and dependable workers. Many still work as sales promotional representatives. Meat-packer Oscar Meyer & Co. uses five midgets as "Little Oscars" to peddle its wieners, mostly to taller customers.

"But it would be like an ostrich putting his head in the sand to say job discrimination doesn't persist," says Charles Bedou. "I know of a dwarf rejected for a teaching job because the school board thought she couldn't discipline a class. Another dwarf was turned down for a research job by several drug firms because, they said, he couldn't reach laboratory instruments, which is pretty ridiculous. But people now realize we can do a lot more than was thought. Some jobs are hard for us. Nursing would be difficult, because it involves moving people around. Ditch-digging wouldn't be any good, because a dwarf would have to throw the dirt a lot farther from the bottom of a six-foot hole. But dwarfs are doctors, lawyers, truck drivers, elevator operators, some even work in light construction."

Since among disabilities dwarfism seems one of the hardest to face, many parents of sufferers tend to react quite strongly to it. "When a dwarf is born into a family, the typical reaction is one of shock, almost a reaction of mourning for the perfect child who didn't come," says Joan Weiss, a social worker for the Moore Clinic, the nation's leading dwarfism research center and a unit of Johns Hopkins Medical Center. "The parents, especially the mother, tend to treat a dwarf as a living family skeleton. If the dwarfed child's father and mother are inhibited in their parental roles by their disappointment and sense of failure, the child will not be able to develop into an emotionally secure adult, and will regard himself as inadequate and insufficient in measurements other than height." What frequently happens, Mrs. Weiss goes on, is that parents become overly protective of their child, thus deflating his ego. Lee Kitchens, for instance, a Texas engineer, was helped across streets by his mother until he was sixteen. Another dwarf remembers being refused use of the family car while in high school. When he got to college, he holed away enough money to buy a car of his own, and taught himself to drive with help from pedal extensions.

One of the most consuming, and frustrating, interests a dwarf has is finding a mate. Mrs. Weiss says, "Social problems for dwarfs begin about the time they enter the second grade, mostly in the form of physical and verbal teasing. This foments insecurity. Then the second crucial period is in the teens, once puberty is reached, when dwarfs suffer four or five times the dating problems of other teens." A small proportion of dwarfs date, and sometimes marry, people of normal height, though

the LPA reports that the mortality rate of mixed-height marriages is exceedingly high.

Painfully aware of the persistent romantic woes of its members, the LPA sponsors weekend regional conferences (social get-togethers), furnishes members with names of eligible partners, and otherwise intrigues to throw together potential spouses. Three quarters of the married couples in the organization met as a result of this planning. Perhaps the most anticipated event on a dwarf's social calendar is the LPA annual convention, where no one in attendance is more than five feet tall. At the convention, rotated around the country, organizers offer a wide-ranging set of activities—dances, boat rides, shows.

Quite a number of dwarfs, however, refuse to join the LPA; mainly, say LPA people, because they refuse to accept the reality of their abnormal stature. Professor Martin Weinberg of Rutgers, in a study he conducted on dwarfs in 1968, found that many dwarfs believe they are normal in every way, a belief they reinforce by refraining from virtually all social contact with other dwarfs. "Dwarfs who join the LPA have already come to grips with the fact that they have a big problem," Rasa says. "I know one dwarf, immensely talented as a musician, who has closeted herself off from society. It's very sad."

Abnormally undersized persons fall into two general categories, and although as many as seventy-five possible causes of dwarfism have been isolated—hormonal failure, defective genes, bone diseases, inadequate nutrition, to name a few—the common malfunction with both varieties is glandular. In the type known loosely as dwarfs and identified medically as achondroplastic dwarfs, a bone disorder at birth results in a stumpiness of the extremities, a large, globular head, and the powerful torso of a person much taller. Growth plods along at a quarter of an inch a year, rather than the customary two-inch speed. Doctors estimate that more than three quarters of dwarfs are of this type (including the dwarf of Norse mythology). Pituitary dwarfs, commonly known as midgets, are unremarkable at birth, but they cease growing in early childhood, and, though very small, are perfectly proportioned. Midgets rarely grow taller than forty inches.

Many dwarfs marry among themselves, and have children (usually by Cesarean section) who almost always grow to full adult height. A prolific English couple sired fourteen normal children. Some midgets, however, fail to reach puberty, and therefore remain sexually immature. Male voices retain a high pitch. While carnivals often tout midget wrestlers, midgets are almost invariably ineffective grapplers. They are, on the whole, extremely feeble.

One in every few thousand births is a dwarf baby, and doctors reckon that roughly 100,000 Americans are dwarfs. They appear in especially great numbers in cultures which marry only among themselves. The Amish, for example, who prohibit wedlock outside their own bloodlines, have a population that is nearly one percent abnormally undersized. This data comes from Dr. Victor McKuisick, head of the Department of Medicine at Johns Hopkins Medical Center, who has studied the Amish and dwarfism at great length. "An island called Krk, off the coast of Yugoslavia, has a high incidence of pituitary dwarfs for the same reason," McKuisick says, "and the same is true of a few other places around the world."

Owing partly to The Little People of America, partly to greater interest in clinical genetics, and partly to gratifying results attained in tissue culture work, medical practitioners have recently intensified their examination of the roots of dwarfism. Progress has been painfully slow, and the prognosis is guardedly hopeful, but researchers soldier on.

Some important encouragement has already been offered the slender percentage (less than one percent) of dwarfs plagued by deficiencies of human growth hormone (HGH). HGH is one of eight hormones manufactured by the pituitary gland, an organ no bigger than a pea that sits beneath the brain at the base of the skull. Released into the bloodstream, HGH assists in the complex chemical process of growth. Among other things, it helps the body lasso amino acids needed to build proteins and it raises the level of blood sugar needed for energy. Nothing whatsoever could be done about hypopituitary dwarfs until 1956, when Dr. Maurice Rabin of Tufts University School of Medicine first extracted purified HGH from the pituitaries of cadavers. Since then, HGH injections have stimulated the growth of some 2000 midget children. Some of them have grown as tall as five-foot-five. Mature hypopituitary dwarfs can't be restored in this manner, since their bone cells have already fused and resist stimulation.

Though HGH treatment of dwarfism is a distinguished medical achievement, only HGH from human or monkey pituitaries works, and the supply from these sources is all too limited. Doctors reckon that thousands more midget children would be taller today if the hormone had been more plentiful in the last decade. To get more HGH, a National Pituitary Agency was formed in 1963 by the U.S. Institute of Arthritis and Metabolic Diseases and the College of American Pathologists. It has been overseeing an educational campaign to persuade pathologists to save human pituitaries after performing autopsies, and to urge the public to will their pituitaries in the same way they will their eyes and other organs. Human Growth Inc., an educational foundation formed in 1965, largely by parents and relatives of hypopituitary dwarfs, has been carrying on the same campaign. The real answer, doctors think, probably lies in synthetic HGH. Biochemist C. H. Li of the University of California at Berkeley has done the spadework here. In 1966, he first identified the structure of the HGH molecule—a baffling sequence of 188 amino acids. In 1971, he synthesized the hormone. His product, however, proved only 10 percent as effective as the natural hormone. Dr. Li says that 25 to 50 percent effectiveness can be achieved, and that large-scale treatment would essentially eradicate hypopituitary dwarfism.

"Dwarfism, generally, I think of as rather like running a business," says Dr. Edmund Murphy, the Moore Clinic's director. "You need management, materials, and labor. You can think of an absence of pituitary growth hormone as being deficient management, so to speak. You can think of lack of materials as being undernutrition. Then you have shortage of labor. There are people who have abnormal bone structure or cartilage cells, which make them unable to make use of the labor. All we have so far is a cure for deficient management, which, as a cause of dwarfism, is hardly a big problem at all. So if you've got a shoe factory, and you're plumb out of leather, it does little good to have a great many cobblers at hand."

Some disproportionate dwarfs plagued by bone disorders have been administered a modified sex hormone called oxandrolone, which is far more abundant than HGH. It is also far less effective. Continuing to frustrate medical science is the considerable task of identifying the cause in a specific case of dwarfism, a process which in many instances requires years. In fact, in certain extremely rare cases, the origin can be entirely psychological. This disorder is known as the emotional deprivation syndrome, in which children cease growing because of a home environment stripped of love. Such children are brought to hospitals, where loving nurses stimulate growth. When they return home, growth stops.

On the whole, dwarfs have refrained from placing all their hopes on medicine. "We are willing to accept our deficiencies, and to make the best of them," says Charles Bedou. "When people stare at me—and they invariably do—I make out that it's more curiosity than anything else. Let them look." □

Thanks to our own Mr. Lee Kitchens who did such a wonderful job on our brochure.
WE REPRINT IT HERE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE NOT HAVING RECEIVED ONE

LITTLE PEOPLE OF AMERICA, INC., Our Slogan "Think Big"
President: James Daniel Turner, P. O. Box 6055, Asheville, N. C.
Vice President: Bob Brower, Avonlake, Carlisle, Iowa
Secretary: Mrs. Launa Kinzel, 6848 Agnes, N. Hollywood, Calif.
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IT IS OFTEN DIFFICULT for some of us to meet other little people for the first time. We are used to living in the "big world" and often do not wish to admit to ourselves that we are different from other people in some way. But regardless of this feeling, the same problems are present with each of us, and meeting others with those problems opens a new world of understanding, friendship, and enjoyment.

For these reasons, Billy Barty, whom we all know from TV and movies, first led a small group of little people to meet in 1955. At Las Vegas, in 1960, over 100 attended a national convention at which a constitution was adopted, the U. S. divided into districts and groundwork laid for incorporation as a non-profit organization — Little People of America, Inc.

The general purpose of LPA as we often call it, is to provide fellowship, interchange of ideas, solutions to the unique problems of a little person and moral support. The mechanism for this is four-fold: An annual convention, annual (or in some cases, more often) district meetings, district and national newsletters and informal or impromptu private meetings between individuals.

## WHAT ABOUT THE CHILDREN?

The small children, whether they have normal or small parents, are of great concern to us. Because they seem to gain as much or more than their elders from contact with other small children, they have their own program and activities in addition to the regular convention program. There is also a program planned for parents of these children providing opportunities for discussion of their special problems.

## HOW IS LPA OPERATED?

1. The USA is divided into 14 districts.
2. Members from each district elect their own director.
3. Members elect national officers at the annual convention.
4. Executive Committee — the officers and directors.
5. The executive committee forms policies and directs programs.
6. Finances are obtained from three sources, membership dues, donations from interested parties and advertising in the Newsletter.
7. Dues Schedule (Annual)

| | |
|---|---|
| Per Person | $5.00 |
| Per Family | $7.50 |
| Children under 16 | Free |

## WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE AND WHERE ARE THEY?

They are people who, for one reason or another, are considerably smaller in stature than most.

They are accountants, bookkeepers, artists, clerks, secretaries, lawyers, watchmakers, students, draftsmen, TV repairmen, barbers, salesmen, builders, civil service employees, food store operators, engineers, bankers — almost every occupation or employment that you can think of is represented.

Your opportunity to meet some of these people will be at the next national convention or district meeting nearest you this year.

## WHAT CAN A LITTLE PERSON GAIN FROM THIS GROUP?

There are many things. Association with others, which in turn will enable you to compare notes on problems and their solutions, knowledge of all the many other little people in the district and across the nation so that you may have the opportunity to meet them individually, a membership card, information on the best places to find things such as those small shoes, where to have clothes made that really fit, life insurance and many other things.

## HOW CAN A LITTLE PERSON BE OF SERVICE?

The ways are many. Most important, by example, you can offer encouragement and moral support to others. You may have the much-needed information that another member seeks about clothes, jobs (very important), cars, education, houses and countless other things.

You may also know or happen to meet other little people who would welcome the chance to become a part of this group.

*—A thought by one of our members—*

A small person can live in two worlds — a small world and a normal world. A person who finds happiness in both worlds has nothing to lose to society or himself. But a person who hides in one of the two worlds must always live with the fear of evasion or contact with the other world. For this person, there is no real truth — not even to himself.

"MY DADDY, HE'S LITTLE LIKE ME!"

Sally Bedow, chairman, LPA's "Little Littles" committee

Many times parents of a newly enlisted little little will ask, "When will our child realize that he is 'different'?" Each of us can readily tell these parents of past experiences we each had when we realized we were indeed 'different.' But with the founding of LPA and with the many marriages that have resulted through the organization, a new question is coming to mind, especially by little parents with either a normal size or a little child--"When will our child realize that we are 'different'?" Charles and I recently had such an experience with our four-year old daughter, Jill.

As in other LPA families, we have worked to prepare Jill for the fact that she is little and that she will be little in size all of her life. However, in that planning we somehow overlooked the important fact that Daddy and Mommy are, and would always be little.

Jill is enrolled in a local nursery school on a two-day-a-week, two-hours-per day basis, designed to help her in adjusting to her limitations in a normal sized world, with normal sized people. At the beginning of the school year, we signed up for an observation day. I, being somewhat more eager, scheduled my observation day early in the fall. Prior to the appointment I had considered the possibility of the children making comments about my size, but I didn't discuss it with Jill and had, in fact, dismissed all thoughts regarding it from my mind.

The visit would have to be described as rather uneventful in terms of comments from the children as to my size. They simply didn't say anything. At the conference following the observation the teacher admitted that the only one having any problem with Jill's size was the teacher herself. The easels were too tall and Jill could only paint the bottom third of her paper; the painting aprons were too long and Jill tended to trip on them, and the play kitchen cupboards were too high so Jill preferred the boys blocks. After a few suggestions I went home with a feeling of satisfaction. Charles' visit a few months later did not go as well.

Class had already begun when he arrived. From the minute he entered the room the children were wild with "Jill, how come your daddy is so little?" Jill was just stricken with uncertainty. While she was glad to see that her father had come, she hadn't exactly thought about Daddy being little and what the reactions would be from the other children. Although she didn't ignore Charles, she didn't show a great enthusiasm for his presence. After about an hour the visitation was over and the classroom returned to normal.

Having heard Charles' account of the morning at the nursery school, I was somewhat prepared for a discussion with Jill. However when I picked her up that evening she gaily said that Daddy had been to school and that they had had such a good time. Totally deflated, not having counted on this from her, I simply commented that I was glad and that maybe Daddy would visit her again sometime soon.

The impact of the children's comments was realized that evening, after we had arrived home. Jill followed me into the kitchen and said,"Mommy, I need to grow bigger muscles." When I asked her why she needed bigger muscles, she replied,

[illegible] unkind words, but honey, you can't go around all of your life hitting people who make comments about Daddy, or Mommy, or even yourself. People are going to say things and you are the one who is going to have to learn to just forget it. If you feel that you just must say or do something, then tell them, 'Yes, my Daddy is little, and so am I."

So, if you are either a normal sized parent, or a little parent, please relax. Whatever your height, if you have either normal sized or dwarfed children, I'm sure you either have or will encounter similiar situations.

At the Parents' Auxiliary meetings in Atlanta, I would like to see one discussion period devoted to the problems of little parents. After all, only too soon our little littles will be adults and little parents themselves. And if we are to give them the guidance and wisdom of our gains and strenghts, we should begin compiling these experiences soon. If any parent has experience such as Charles and I encountered, please plan to share it with the Parents' Auxiliary members at the national convention in Atlanta, or describe your encounter, and the solution which you found successful, in a letter to me.

"So I can hit them kids in the mouth!" Still not realizing exactly the whole implication of her violent threat, I asked her which kids she meant. "Them kids that said, 'How come your daddy is so little?'" It was then I realized that it was time for all the answers on which I had been working all afternoon.....and at that moment I also realized that those answers had simply vanished from my mind. However I did manage to say, "Jill, I'm very glad that you feel that way about Daddy. It is good to want to protect him from unkind words, but honey, you can't go around all of your life hitting people who make comments about Daddy, or Mommy, or even yourself. People are going to say things and you are the one who is going to have to learn to just forget it. If you feel that you just must say or do something, then tell them, 'Yes, my Daddy is little, and so am I."

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# 1971 NATIONAL CONVENTION

If you are an avid member of the "Calender watchers of America Society," you will know that the 13th annual national convention is less than three months away. Members planning to attend the week-long gala convention should be "tucking those bucks away," and beginning to make either plane, train or car pool reservations for the trip into the land of southern hospitality. In several districts members are making group reservations in order that the exciting fun times may begin the moment that they leave their home city.

In addition to the traditional events at the convention--such as the talent and fashion shows and the banquet Thursday evening--the members of District Four have planned for the convention visitors to see "Six Flags Over Georgia," a family entertainment center; Underground Atlanta, an historic old city that will enable everyone to see Atlanta as it was in the 1880's and 90's (with gaslit streets, entertainment and shops); Georgia's Stone Mountain, which has the famous Confederate Memorial carving --80'x180'-- located 400 feet above the ground, on the face of the largest exposed mountain of granite in the world.

There will be a timely old train ride (which is attacked by the Indians) to a huge man made beach made specifically for swimming; a tour of the world's largest indoor painting --the Cycloroma--which is housed in its own building because of its huge size, depicts the Battle of Atlanta which was fought during the Civil War, and especially for the little littles, a trip to a local dairy has been planned where the children can milk a real live cow if they desire.

These, and many other events will all be a part of the program in Atlanta. In the next few weeks a tentative program of events, along with a pre-registration form will be sent to all members. If you haven't already started saving, begin now to "Tuck those Bucks Away....." and be in Atlanta July 26-30!

# WRESTLING HAS A QUEEN

## DARLING DAGMAR

SHE IS PERT and pretty with silver blonde hair and a cute southern accent. No wonder she is called "Darling." Darling Dagmar if you please. All this wrapped up in four feet 2 inches and 95 pounds of wrestling dynamite. Her southern charm easily wraps you around her tiny finger.

Yes, Darling Dagmar is a woman midget wrestler from North Carolina. She has been a professional wrestler for twelve years now and considered in the top five of all women midget wrestlers, which number twenty five or thirty.

When Darling Dagmar was very young in North Carolina, she loved professional wrestling. She witnessed it from television which came from Chicago but shown down south.

Born Katherine Carlton, she changed her name to Darling Dagmar when she turned to the pro ranks in 1962. Her very first pro match took in Birmingham, Alabama against Baby Shirl. Says Dagmar grinning, "Heck I lost but I gave her a tough match."

It was California where Dagmar learned to wrestle at a wrestling training school. At first she picked up pointers on her own and was taught by amateurs.

Darling Dagmar prefers to wrestle without wrestling shoes but for the early part of her career she did wear them. As Dagmar puts it, "I was really only a beginner and I was afraid of breaking an ankle. I love wrestling barefoot and it is natural for me because I did come from the south where being barefoot was part of growing up. I find being without wrestling shoes gives me more maneuverability for flying tactics. I still put on the wrestling shoes if an ankle is giving me a problem."

Darling Dagmar has wrestled in just about every part of the country, which now includes New York. Very soon women midget wrestlers will be allowed to campaign in Oregon. Dagmar has wrestled in Japan, Australia where she has met other midget women wrestlers from those countries, which adds to the count of some thirty women midgets that wrestle here in the states.

As of the moment there is no midget women champion or tag team champions but a tournament is being talked about to decide a singles champion. It will consist of the top ten rated women midgets in wrestling from all over, which will include Dagmar. Says Dagmar, "I'm looking forward to this tournament and I hope to eventually come out the champion. I have the experience and the ability to do it."

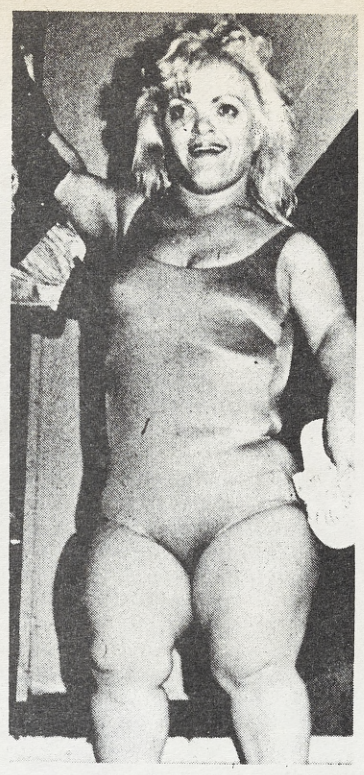
Not only has Darling Dagmar wrestled other women midgets but has been involved in mixed matches of all kinds. "I've been with big women wrestlers as a tag partner and naturally we wrestled a team consisting of another midget women wrestler and big women wrestler," said Dagmar. "I have also teamed with a big male wrestler against another team of the same. Believe me they are rough matches. You know normally a midget goes against another midget in these matches but in the heat of battle you do get caught by the wrong party. You have to be on your toes at all times. I really like these matches. They are exciting and the fans love them. I would like to see them signed everywhere."

Darling Dagmar has also been the third party in the ring. Yes, she has officiated as a referee in midget matches. States Dagmar, "I love being a referee. It's most exciting and you learn plenty. I don't take any sass from anyone. I lay down the rules and I expect them to be obeyed. I make it a point to tell the opponents that I won't allow them to touch me. If they do, then I will let them have it the hard way. I have done this already. The referee is the boss. Being a referee has taught me to respect a referee and I try to follow the rules as best I can. I like to follow the rules myself but if my opponent wants it rough, well I'll wrestle their way. Being a pro for twelve years I know all the rough tricks."

Injuries are not uncommon in professional wrestling and Darling Dagmar has had her share. The cuts, bruises and broken bones have come her way. Three years ago Dagmar received her most serious injury in Shreveport, Louisiana. Her opponent Doll Paige put eighteen stitches into Dagmar's head, which kept her out of action for three weeks.

Of course Darling Dagmar is a wrestling star in her own right and she also is a great wrestling fan. She loves great wrestling ability and she has her favorites. Says Dagmar, "I look for great wrestling ability. I may not agree with tactics of some but they have to have this ability to stay on top for these many years. If anyone thinks that some villains don't have great wrestling knowledge because they use foul tactics or weapons well they better think again."

Darling Dagmar was scheduled to make her first appearance in the New York area at Westchester County Center in White Plains. She was really thrilled over this.

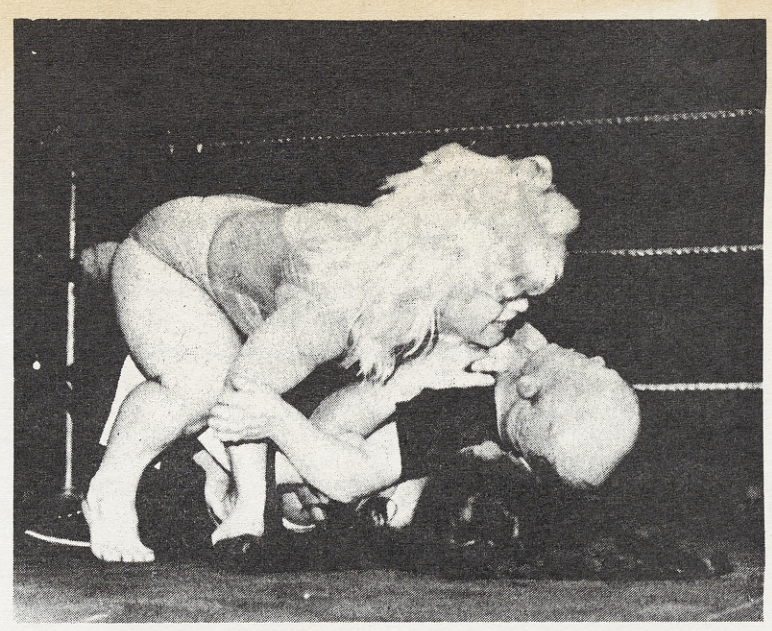


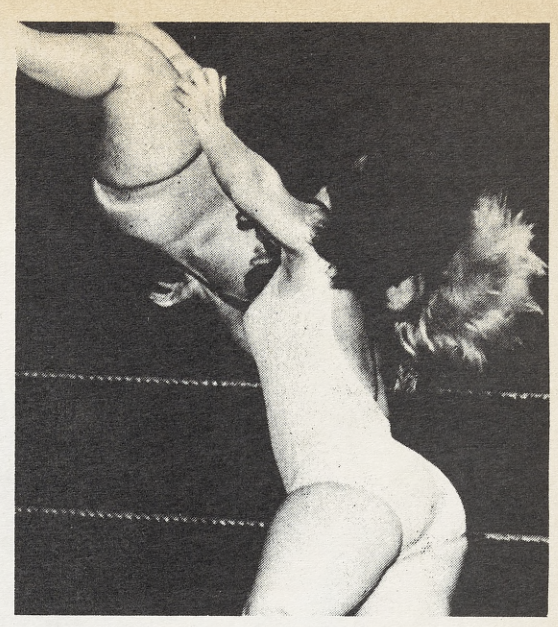
**She may be a charmer outside the ring. However, once the bell sounds, the 4'-2", 95-pound barefoot blonde is a bundle of fury. So much so that she is rated among the top five midget wrestlers.**

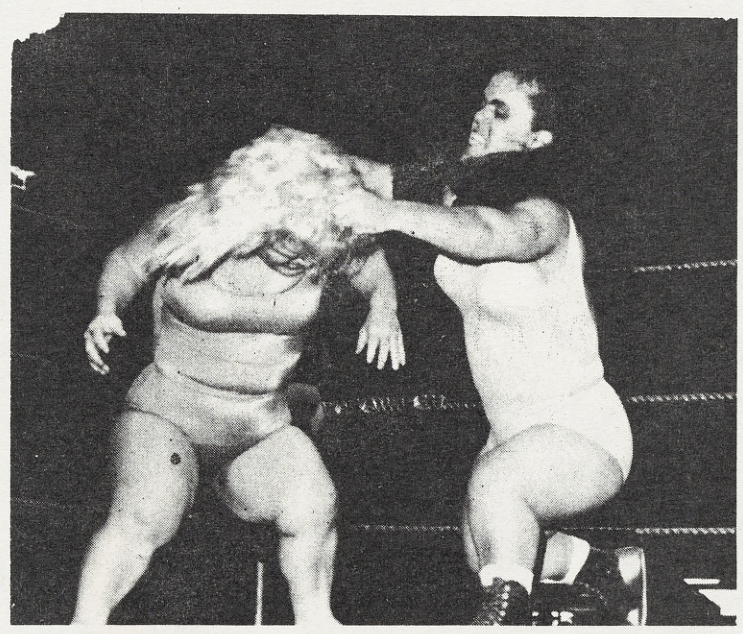
(OPPOSITE PAGE)
DARLING DAGMAR FIGHTS WITH RUGGED DIAMOND LIL AND THE ACTION IS WILD. DAGMAR PREFERS FOLLOWING THE RULES, WHILE LIL LOVES BREAKING THEM.

# PRINCESS LITTLE DOVE

weight 85 lbs. "Midget Girl Wrestler" height 42 inches





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